

# CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH ELEMENT)

## DIVISION

BRANCH

No. ZECO/11145/SEC.

**SUBJECT:—**

# CRIME IN D.P. CAMPS

E  
622

FO 1032 / 2566

**REFERENCE TO OTHER RELEVANT FILES**

[illegible]

Referred to	Folio or L.O.M.	Date	Intd.	Referred to	Folio or L.O.M.	Date	Intd.	Referred to	Folio or L.O.M.	Date	Intd.
G	1A	23/6/49	41								
F.A	3A	1/9	CM								
P.A.	4A	22/9	CM								
PA		4/11	#								
PA		6/12	#								
S	31000A	9/11	W								
BF		12/12	#								
G	19A	9/2	W								
PA		1/2	#								
PA		11/12	#								
PA		6/1	#								
G	27A	9/2	W								
G	28A	6/2	W								
PA		2/5	#								
PA		1/5	#								

K

666/15/6412

ARCHIVES

Foreign Office (German Section)

Authority for final closing

INITIALS

BRANCH

DATE

2566



1A

From

Telephone Bände 2821

Your Reference

Our Reference 62PS/CW/1

Office of the Public Safety Adviser,  
Zonal Executive Offices,

40  
1949

CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY  
(BRITISH ELEMENT),

62 HQ. CCG(BE) Bände, BAOR. 1.

19th. May, 1949

To: D.C.O.S.(Exec).  
Zonal Executive Offices,  
60 HQ. CCG(BE) Lübbecke,  
B.A.O.R. 1.  
.....

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No.: 11145	Section: G.
Date Rec'd: 27 MAY 1949	
Location of File:	Date:
Seen by:	Action:

Capt. DCO  
has sent

SUBJECT: Staff Memorandum - Crime in Displaced Persons' Camps.  
.....

...

Forwarded, herewith, for information and retention, is a copy of a Staff Memorandum, relative to the above subject, prepared at the request of Central Secretariat, HQ. Berlin, by the Office of the Public Safety Adviser, in consequence of Foreign Office, confidential despatch, No. 166(CG/543/543/184) of the 25th. March, 1949.

FLAQA

2. It will be observed that the Staff Memorandum has been concurred by D.P. Division, Legal Division and Political Division. The latter Division have, however, in a separate letter, POL/680 22/49 dated 14th. May, 1949, copy attached, hereto, for facility of reference, qualified their concurrence with a recommendation that an amendment be made in paragraph 7, page 2 of the letter to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Red Flag). To this recommendation the Public Safety Adviser has agreed. (attached copy amended).

3. Political Division further recommended in their above quoted letter (sub paras. (b)(i) and (ii) of paragraph 1 refer) that certain further information should be brought to the attention of the Secretary of State.

4. While the Public Safety Adviser agrees to the validity of the recommendation made by Political Division, he has, however, pointed out in the covering letter transmitting the Staff Memorandum to Central Secretariat that experience has shown that some Displaced Persons, deported from the British Zone under Ordinance No. 64, have subsequently returned illegally over the Soviet Zonal Border, Under assumed names and posing as political refugees they have thereupon been granted I.R.O. facilities.

/5.

9.6.25/5



5. With regard to point (b) (ii) of the Political Division letter, the Public Safety Adviser considers it doubtful that the powers under the Constitution of the International Relief Organisation to withdraw I.R.O. facilities from any individual have been exercised as vigorously in the past as they might have been.

6. It is not yet known to this Office whether or not the recommendations by Political Division, quoted in para. 3 above, will be complied with.

*R. Taylor*  
for Public Safety Adviser *PSOII*

RT/DGK  
ENCLS.

Letter dictated over telephone by Mr. O'HARA 16.5.49.

Ref: Pol/680/22/49

14th. May, 1949

From: Displaced Persons Branch, Political Division  
To: Central Secretariat.

Reference attached Staff Memorandum prepared by Public Safety Adviser and submitted to this Division for concurrence. We have the following comments to make:

- (a) It is suggested in para. 7 on page 2 of the letter to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the following words in the last and penultimate lines of this paragraph might be deleted: "Camp Committees, their police and inmates", and the following substituted: "The D.P. Camp inmates generally."
- (b) In regard to the last two paragraphs of the same letter we suggest that it should be brought to attention that we already possess certain powers for dealing with D.P. criminals. These powers are as follows:-
  - (i) Under Ordinance No. 64 a Deportation Order may be made in the following cases:-
    - (a) If a person not of German nationality is convicted by Military Government Court and that Court recommends that a Deportation Order should be made in his case, either in addition or in lieu of sentence or
    - (b) If Military Government deems it in the interests of the peace, order or good Government of the British Zone to make Deportation Order against the person concerned.
  - (ii) Under paragraph (e) of Section (d) Part 1 of the Constitution of the International Refugee Organisation any Displaced Person can be declared by R.I.O. to cease to be the concern of the Organisation if it can be proved that he or she is exploiting the assistance of the Organisation. If a D.P. is declared ineligible for care and assistance of I.R.O. he or she is automatically ejected from the D.P. Camp in which he or she is living. This latter power has been exercised from time to time in the case of D.Ps persistently engaged in black marketing etc.

2. We have concurred in the Staff Memorandum but feel that the points mentioned above should be brought to the attention of the Secretary of State.

sgd. Logan-Grey

From: Major-General K.G. McLean, C.B.



OFFICE OF  
THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND  
DEPUTY MILITARY GOVERNOR

HEADQUARTERS  
CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY  
(BRITISH ELEMENT)  
BERLIN, BAOR 2

24. August, 1949.

Dear Wansbrough L.

As a result of an article in the Daily Telegraph of 10th August which suggested that D.P. Camps were centres for gang robberies and black market activities, I wrote to Public Safety Division for suggestions to clean up these camps. Timmerman replied in his 62/PS/CW/1 of 19th August and suggested a working party to examine the problem of criminal activities of D.P.s in D.P. Camps and make recommendations.

I should be grateful if you would set up such a committee. I suggest it might have one of your staff as chairman, together with representatives of Public Safety, Legal, Political (DP Branch) and Intelligence.

Yours

*McLean*

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No.: 11145	Section: G.
Date Rec'd: 30 AUG 1949	
Location of File:	Date:
Seen by:	
Action at:	

Major-General L.L. Wansbrough-Jones, CB, CBE,  
C.A.O./D.C.O.S. (Exec),  
60 H.Q. C.C.G.,  
B.A.O.R. 1.

1 Ro  
unusual  
may have  
to be  
checked  
questions

*Acad*  
*Will you please take*  
*this on*

Pub Safety  
DP Div  
Pol (DP)  
Legal  
 narcotics  
Intell.

*3570*

*2 A.*



From: Major-General L.A. McLean, C.B.

CAO/DCOS (Free)

11<sup>th</sup> August, 1949

2<sup>nd</sup>

Dear

1. I attach a cutting from the Daily Telegraph of 10th August, 1949, about criminal activities in D.F. Camp. I raised the question at the HENCO meeting today but no Public Safety representative was present and we couldn't discuss it. The Military Governor therefore asked me to write and bring the report to your notice.

2. I should be glad if you would give me your comments on the report. In particular:

- (a) are the criminal activities described an exaggeration? Have you any figures to show the real state of affairs?
- (b) are the activities steadily being reduced as D.F.s leave the country or are they committed by the hard core?
- (c) are the activities confined to one or more particular camps?
- (d) is there any reason why firm action should not be taken to suppress the activities? What action would you propose to reduce the crimes?

3. The reference to the murder of Sir John Sherry by D.F.s is, of course, most unfortunate as it is not proved.

K. G. McLEAN

M.S. O'Rourke, M.C.,  
Officer of the Public Safety Adviser,  
G2 H.Q. C.O.S.,  
Dublin,  
R.A.C.R. 1.

COPY

From: Mr. J. Timmerman

Telephone Bände 2115  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 62/PS/CW/1

Office of the Public Safety Adviser,  
Zonal Executive Offices,  
- C.C.G. Bände,  
62 H.Q. C.C.G. (B.E.),  
B.A.O.R. 1.

19th August 1949

My dear General, I refer to your HQ/8226/Sec.G. dated 11th August, which

unfortunately arrived after Mr. O'Rourke had gone on leave. As he will not be back until 10th September and the matter to which your letter refers obviously should be dealt with at once, I am replying on his behalf.

2. Perhaps the best way in which I can provide the information you desire is to deal in some detail with the particular queries contained in your letter.

(a) Reference 2(a).

The facts given in the cutting from the "Daily Telegraph" are substantially correct although the way in which they are presented tends to exaggerate the problem and present it in its most unfavourable light.

For example, it cannot be denied that criminal gangs from Displaced Persons Centres have been responsible for numerous robberies and black market and currency transactions on a large scale and that this has caused some concern to both the German and Allied Authorities. During the first two years of the Occupation the situation was desperately bad; the ratio of violent crime as between German and D.P. Criminals in 1946 being approximately 1 to 40 for robbery and murder and 1 to 180 for all crimes committed with fire arms. However, in 1947 material reductions were effected in respect of robbery and crimes committed with firearms the figures being 1 to 25 and 1 to 78 respectively. The figure for murder remained approximately the same. The present crime ratio as between Germans and D.Ps. for all types of crime is approximately 1 to 2.5. These figures are computed on the basis of the numbers of Germans and D.Ps. arrested in connection with these types of crime each month as compared with the numbers of Germans and D.Ps. in the Zone at the time.

With regard to the other items contained in the report I would say that -

(i) There are undoubtedly a number of persons now living in Hohn (Bergen-Belsen) camp who have accumulated large sums of money, jewellery and other valuables by indulging in black market activities. As you are aware Public Safety, Frontier Control and the German Police have been very active in suppressing this traffic. Many

Major-General K.G. McLean, C.B.

COPY

From: Mr. J. T. Timmerman

Office of the Public Safety Adviser,  
Zonal Executive Offices,  
- 2-2-6-6, B.M.,  
- 62 H.G. C.C.C. (B.E.),  
B.A.A.O.R. I.

Telephone  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 62/PS/CW/1

19th August 1949

Large seizures have been made and when it was discovered some time ago that most of these goods originated from large consignments of coffee, cigarettes, tinned meats, sugar, etc. reported in bulk in the guise of relief goods under J.R.T.A. licence, the whole procedure of issuing such licences and controlling the importation of relief goods into the Zone generally, was revised with the object of exercising more effective control. This measure, together with the improved economic situation generally, has led to a great reduction in black market activities of this type on the part of the D.Ps. (principally Jewish) concerned. (a)

This office is not in a position either to verify or deny the report that there are 15 Black Market Mark Millionaires in this camp, although what we know of the past activities of some of its inmates does lend a certain amount of credence to the story.

(ii) The seizure in Bremen by the American Authorities of property described as personal baggage and in fact consisting of high grade machine tools, motor cars and other dutiable industrial goods, did take place. Some 700 cases of goods (up to 5 tons in weight each) are involved. While the investigation has by no means been completed it seems that sufficient evidence has already been obtained to charge ROSENCHART, the Camp Leader at Honne, with making a number of false declarations on certain Customs forms which he signed in respect of these goods and, possibly, with illegally attempting to export the goods without the required licence. Public Safety, Frontier Control and the German Police of the British Zone are assisting the American Authorities in charge of the investigation; especially as it appears that the German Customs officials who cleared the goods for shipment at the Camp may have been bribed to let the goods through and that some of the goods may have been obtained by theft or in some other illegal way.

(iii) The two men involved in the burglary of the jeweller's shop and attempted murder of a German Policeman in Bunde have been arrested. One is a Ukrainian and the other a Russian D.P.

(b) Reference 2(b)

As will be seen from the figures given in the preceding sub-paragraphs, although criminal activities by D.Ps. have drastically been reduced since the early days of the Occupation, criminal incidence amongst D.Ps. is still over double that recorded in respect of the German population. The reduction in

Major-General R.G. McLean, C.B.

/crime...



crime effected is only partially due to D.P.s leaving the country. Police success in dealing with this type of criminal, their subsequent conviction and sentence, in many cases too long terms of imprisonment, also have played a considerable part.

However, there is no doubt that practically all current serious crimes by D.P.s is committed by a small hard core of criminals within the D.P. population who are unsuitable or unacceptable for immigration and who refuse repatriation to their country of origin.

(c) Reference 2(c)

Criminal activities are not confined to one or more particular camps although it may be said that the majority of the more violent D.P. criminal element comprises of Poles living in and working from Polish camps and that Hohne (Bergen-Belsen) Camp is a particularly notorious centre of black market activity.

(d) Reference 2(d)

The problem of taking additional action to suppress the criminal activities of D.P.s is not as easy as it may first appear. This question was considered some time ago at the request of the Foreign Office and, in consequence, despatch HQ/11101/2/2/Sec.G. dated 4th July, 1949, was sent to the Secretary of State suggesting that the only effective and acceptable way in which the high incidence of crime by D.P.s could materially be reduced was by depriving D.P.s convicted of serious crime of any particular material benefits, for example I.R.O. maintenance, which pertains to D.P. status and the right to live in camps and dispensing them to the German economy.

Although I.R.O. have agreed in principle to this proposal, little progress has been made towards implementing it due, it is believed, to certain objections raised by Geneva and the practical difficulties involved. I believe it would be of value to convene a working party composed of representatives from the interested branches of the C.C.G. and I.R.O. to consider the whole problem and to make recommendations. This I suggest is desirable in view of the fact that unanimity does not exist even with the C.C.G. as to the precise way in which this problem should be handled.

3. The unfortunate reference to the murder of Sir John Sheehy is regretted, but I can only say that this and the other information contained in the report was not, so far as is known, obtained from Public Safety by the correspondent.

I shall be attending BERCOS in Berlin on 25 August and shall be glad then or at any other time to discuss this matter or to provide any further information you may require should you so desire.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. TIMMERMAN

**This file MUST receive IMMEDIATE attention**

**To be used for Staff  
Memoranda ONLY**

# STAFF MEMORANDUM

Subject CRIME IN DISPLACED PERSONS' CAMPS

Prepared by THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISER

To be concurred by POLITICAL DIVISION

LEGAL DIVISION

P.W. & D.P. DIVISION

Signature

*R Taylor*  
PSO II.

Originated at 1200 hrs on 6<sup>th</sup> May 1949

Passed to

P.W. & D.P. DIVISION

LEGAL DIVISION

POLITICAL DIVISION

P. Saks  
CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

Central Seal

at 0930 hrs on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1949

at 10.00 hrs on 13 May 1949

at 10.30 hrs on 13 May 1949

at 13.15 hrs on 14 May 1949

at 12.15 hrs on 16 May 49

at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs on \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs on \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs on \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

*R Taylor*

B. de H. P. (B.A.R. H)

B. de H. P. (B.A.R. H)

D. Hogan Gray (B.A.R. H)

B.A.R. H

CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH ELEMENT)

LEGAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

LEGAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISER

CGP/GW/1

6<sup>th</sup> May, 1949.

SUBJECT:- CRIME IN DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS

To:- Chief of Staff

I. DISCUSSION.

1. The Foreign Office requests that a report be submitted on the present position regarding the committing of crime in Displaced Persons Camps with particular reference to the extent, if any, by which measures adopted by the Police in the British Zone against such crime are impaired by the necessity of taking political considerations into account (Flag 'A').

2. In resolving this question it is necessary to appreciate the incidence and type of crime most frequently committed by Displaced Persons, the powers of Police and procedure in dealing with such, the efficacy of police action, and the reasons for a lack of police success where such is apparent.

3. The powers of German Police over Displaced Persons are defined by Legal Executive Instruction No. 2 dated 30th January, 1947 (as amended) entitled "Treatment of Displaced Persons" (see relevant extracts at Flag 'B') which stipulates that:-

- (a) German Police are empowered to deal with Displaced Persons as German civilians, both inside and outside Camps.
- (b) When German Police have occasion to enter a Displaced Persons Camp they should first report to the P.W. and B.P. Division representative, if present in the Camp, or to the Camp Leader, or his Deputy, or in their absence to the Chief of the Camp Police.
- (c) Where time and circumstances permit, the German Police will inform the nearest Public Safety Officer before entry to the Camp is made.
- (d) Public Safety Officers will in appropriate cases accompany German Police entering Displaced Persons Camps.
- (e) Strong Police posts may be established in Displaced Persons Camps known to harbour criminal elements.

Thus it will be seen that in theory at least the only limitation on freedom of action and the exercise of normal police powers in dealing with Displaced Persons, directly imposed on Police for political reasons, appertains to their right to enter Displaced Persons Camps. The extent to which the Police are handicapped by the necessity of observing this limitation is discussed below.

4. There is no doubt that:-

- (a) Criminally inclined Displaced Persons living in Camps are responsible for an inordinate number of certain types of crime - notably crimes of violence against the person, thefts of livestock and cattle etc.

-/(b)...



- (b) Certain Displaced Persons Camps are notorious centres of black market and connected fraudulent activities.

5. The extent of violent crime committed by Displaced Persons and the effectiveness of German Police action in dealing with those responsible for it, may be seen from the table at Flag 'C'. This shows the number of Displaced Persons and Germans arrested for crimes against the person during the first quarter of this year to be 85.9 per 100,000 for Displaced Persons as compared with 33.9 per 100,000 for Germans. Police success in dealing with crimes of this type by Displaced Persons may be attributed to the fact that the victims are generally innocent persons, that the crimes are committed outside the Camps, are brought to immediate notice and the victims usually provide ready and adequate evidence both with regard to the commission of the crime itself and the probable identity of the offender. Thus Police are enabled to take immediate and vigorous action without having regard to political considerations. A further contributory factor is that the commission of this type of crime is unpopular with and therefore discouraged by both Camp Committees, that is to say representative Committees constituted from the Camp inmates, and the less violently disposed Displaced Persons principally because of the widespread unfavourable publicity usually attending such crimes; the immediate Police attention they attract and the fact that they profit only the individual at the expense of the D.P. community as a whole. It follows, therefore, that where co-operation from Camp Committees or Camp Police is an essential to success such co-operation is more often and readily forthcoming in connection with the investigation of violent than non-violent crime.

6. The position in respect of other types of crime, such as smuggling, forgery of ration documents and currency offences etc. is not so satisfactory. The chief reason for this is that the taking of effective action by Police against Displaced Persons for such crime is hampered by the necessity for, and the delay in, tracing the original source of such activities from the place they first came to Police attention back to D.P. Camps. This process naturally detracts from the reliability and clarity of the evidence available to Police regarding the guilt and identity of any D.P. offenders and deprives Police action against them of directness and vigour. It also frequently imposes a need for corroborative evidence being obtained - evidence which usually can only be secured within the Camps themselves with the co-operation of Camp Committees, their Police or other inmates. The likelihood of such co-operation forthcoming is extremely remote as crimes of this nature are more often than not committed on an organised basis and receive the passive, if not active, support of the Camp Committees, their Police and inmates.

7. It therefore follows that the most serious obstacle to effective Police action against D.P. criminal elements lies not in the delay imposed on the Police by their having to observe certain formalities before entering D.P. Camps, but in the fact that Displaced Persons regard themselves as a privileged people, are devoid of any sense of civic responsibility or loyalty to the German community or State in which they live and in many cases are possessed of a deep seated hatred towards Germans to whom they attribute all their ills - real or imaginary. In these circumstances it is not surprising that effective co-operation between Camp Committees, their Police and inhabitants, and the German Police in the suppression and detection of crime of a non-violent nature committed outside of Camps, or directly affecting only the Germans or the German economy, is generally lukewarm and often non-existent and that Camps are used by criminally inclined D.Ps. as bases from which to operate and to which they can eventually return for sanctuary and protection.

8. It would be quite wrong to give the impression that all D.P. Camps are equally blame-worthy in this regard, culpability naturally varies as between Camps and in the main is confined to those Camps whose inmates are predominantly Polish. In certain Camps, especially those in which German Police posts have been established, co-operation between Camp Committees, etc. and German Police is often adequate and sometimes even good. However, it must not be assumed from this that the establishment of Police posts in every Camp, irrespective of the attitude of the Camp Committees or the feelings of the inhabitants, would go far towards solving the vexed problem of controlling and reducing D.P. crime.

9. Experience has shown that the establishment of German Police posts in Camps is worth while only in cases where such have been erected with the approval of Camp Committees and the tacit consent of the majority of the Camp inmates. This becomes obvious when considering the ease with which such posts can be rendered practically ineffective by passive obstruction, such as refusal to co-operate with the Police in any way. The practicability of this measure is further reduced by the likelihood that its adoption in relation to certain Camps would give rise to undesirable political repercussions outside and disturbances and demonstrations within these Camps. The weight of these considerations is particularly apparent in the case of Hühne Camp which accommodates the majority of the 5,430 Jewish D.Ps. now in the Zone, and is a noted centre of black market and connected fraudulent activities.

10. From the above it is clear that the answer to the question raised by the Foreign Office is that the effectiveness of action against crime by D.Ps. is not seriously impaired by the necessity to limit Police action for reason of political consideration. It is also obvious, however, that criminally inclined D.Ps. derive considerable advantages from the fact that, owing to political considerations, they are maintained in close and convenient association in circumstances which encourage crime and render vigorous and effective preventative and detective action by German Police difficult.

11. The obvious solution of closing the Camps is clearly out of the question. To rely on the programme of resettlement and emigration will prolong the present unsatisfactory state and result in a residue or hard-core of D.Ps. being left on our hands in Camps composed of the aged, the sick, the blind and the criminals who are incapable of being resettled and unacceptable to other countries as emigrants. It is therefore suggested that the only effective and acceptable way in which the high incidence of crime by D.Ps. can materially be reduced is by depriving D.Ps. convicted of serious crimes of their special status and the right to live in Camps, and to disperse them to the German economy. This would not only apply to D.Ps. convicted in Germany but also to those who have immigrated to other countries, have been convicted of crimes there and in consequence have been deported back to Germany. If adopted this course would:

- (a) Deprive criminal elements within the D.P. population of the advantages that they now hold by reason of their D.P. status, and their living in D.P. Camps.
- (b) Act as a strong deterrent to criminal activities.
- (c) Automatically reduce the hard-core of D.Ps. resident in Camps who are unsuitable for resettlement or emigration.

## II. RECOMMENDATION

That the Military Governor approve and sign the letter at Red Flag.

## III. CONCURRENCES

Political Division

Sgt. D. Logan Gray 14/5. (See Separate letter). (BAHO.H.)

Legal Division

Sgt. B. de H. P. 13/5

(BAHO.H.)

P.W. & D.P. Division

A.C.T. 1615-L 10 May 49

*A. S. ORONTZ*

Public Safety Adviser.

CONF

FILE "A"

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

No. 166

25th March, 1949.

(CG 543/543/184)

Confidential

Sir,

I am anxious to ascertain to what extent, if any, the measures adopted by the police authorities in the British Zone to combat crime in Displaced Persons Camps are impaired by the necessity of taking political considerations into account.

2. Periodically I see reports suggesting that Displaced Persons Camps in Germany are centres of black-market transactions, document forging, drug smuggling and other criminal activities. I understand that while the German Police have the same legal powers over Displaced Persons as over the rest of the community, it has been found necessary in practice to make them conform to a special procedure, in conducting searches of these Camps. This entails, I gather, that the German Police must, except in cases of extreme urgency, be accompanied by British Public Safety Officers and must in all cases work through the Camp authorities and the Camp police.

3. I fully appreciate the reasons which led to the adoption of this policy. I am aware too, that there exists a small but extremely active section of public opinion in this country which reacts violently at any suggestion that Displaced Persons, particularly those of Jewish origin, should be subjected to the authority of the German Police. This group protested strongly on the occasion of the search of Hühne Camp in February, 1948 although in that case the German Police did no more than guard the approaches to the Camp while a search was carried out by British personnel.

4. It is clearly necessary that regard should be paid to the feelings of these people, many of whom were the victims of the Nazis and it is right that safeguards should exist to ensure that the law is enforced in the Displaced Persons Camps with the minimum friction. On the other hand it would clearly be most undesirable if as a consequence of such political considerations the law were not enforced against Displaced Persons with the same rigour as against the rest of the community, and the Camps were allowed to become hot-beds of crime against which the German Police felt themselves powerless.

5. It is not intended to suggest that there should be a special drive against law-breakers in Displaced Persons Camps; any suspicion of discrimination would be most undesirable. I should like to assure myself, however, that in dealing with the problem of crime in Displaced Persons Camps the authorities concerned, whether German or British, are not being unduly hampered in the execution of their duty by the considerations I have indicated. I shall be grateful for a report on the present position.

I am, with great truth and regard,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,  
(For the Secretary of State)

(Sgd:) Basil Hurdon Smalley

General

Sir Brian Robertson, Bt, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.,  
etc. etc. etc.,  
Berlin.



CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH ELEMENT)

FINAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FINAL EXECUTIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 2  
dated 20th JANUARY, 1947

TREATMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS

TOTAL OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN GERMAN COURTS AND POWERS OF GERMAN POLICE

23. (a) It is H.M.G.'s policy that, at a later date, Displaced Persons will come within the jurisdiction of German Courts. For the present, however, they will remain under the jurisdiction of Central Commission Courts.
- (b) The German Police are empowered to deal with Displaced Persons as German civilians, both inside and outside Displaced Persons' Camps.
  - (i) When the German Police in the execution of their lawful functions, have occasion to enter a D.P. Camp, they should first report to the PW/DP Division representative, if in the Camp, or to the Camp Leader or his Deputy, or in their absence to the Chief of the Camp Police, who must afford every facility to the German Police in carrying out their lawful task. In every case of such entry into a D.P. Camp, the reasons for, and results of this action will be reported with the least possible delay by the senior German Police Officer concerned, to the Public Safety Officer responsible for the supervision of the German Police Force in whose district the D.P. Camp lies. This Public Safety Officer will in turn report the facts to the R/B Commander and to the 'R' Detachment Commander responsible for the supervision of the particular Camp.
  - (ii) Where time and circumstances permit, the German Police will inform the nearest Public Safety Officer before entry into the Camp is made. If police action will not be prejudiced by the consequent delay the Public Safety Officer will inform the 'R' Detachment Commander of the action proposed who will, if possible, arrange for a representative to be present. A Public Safety Officer will also attend if possible, but urgent police action is not to be impeded or unduly delayed by any difficulties that may arise in securing the presence of PW/DP and Public Safety representatives.
  - (iii) Where it becomes necessary to plan a large scale search of a D.P. Camp, the German Police who desire to take this action, must give prior information to the Public Safety Officer responsible for the supervision of their Force. The Public Safety Officer will act as in paragraph (b) (ii) above, and will, if he considers it necessary, request that the search be made a Military Operation. In this event, the Public Safety Officer concerned will be present throughout the search, along with any number of the German Police whose presence is required for purposes of identification. Applications for assistance will be made by the R/B Commander in accordance with Appendix 'C' to RACR/304/1/C(ops) dated 23.5.47.

-(iv)...

- (iv) The Chief of a Police Force in whose area a registered Displaced Person is arrested shall cause the Camp Staff of the Displaced Persons Assembly Centre, with which he is registered, to be notified of the fact by the quickest possible means.
- (e) Further additional measures to ensure that the powers granted to the German Police will be implemented forthwith are as follows:-
  - (i) Specific orders should be given for the return to Stores of all arms issued to or in possession of the D.P. Police.
  - (ii) Consequent upon (a) (i) above, all D.Ps. should again be warned that under Central Council Order No. 2 of 7th January, 1946 and Mil. Gov. Ordinance No. 1, paragraph 9, illicit possession of arms and ammunition is an offence punishable with the death penalty.
  - (iii) The activities of the D.P. Police will be strictly confined to the maintenance of discipline and order within the Camp perimeter.
  - (iv) In consultation with Deputy Inspectors General, Public Safety, Regional Commissioners should consider the advisability of establishing strong German Police Stations of appropriate strengths in those D.P. Camps known to harbour criminal elements responsible for crimes against the German population. These German Police Stations should be established and organized with the assistance of Public Safety Officers, Landser Governments and local German Police authorities.
  - (v) German Police may, when authorized by Public Safety Officers, request relevant information in specific cases concerning registered D.Ps. to be supplied by the local 'B' Detachment Commander or Arbeitsamt Manager.
- (d) The above instructions do not alter the procedure to be followed when Allied Nationals have been arrested by the German Police for any offense.
- (e) 21 Army Group Military Government Instructions Nos. 31 and 68, issued under references 21 A Gp/16122/11/CA/Mil Gov and 21 A Gp/36181/2/CA/Mil Gov are hereby cancelled."

FLAG 'U'

OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON

Table of Arrests during January, February  
and March, 1949 in the British Zone of Germany.

<u>Region.</u>	<u>D.P.'s. arrested.</u>	<u>Germans arrested.</u>
Schleswig-Holstein	22	704
Hansestadt Hamburg	7	666
Niedersachsen	64	2082
Nord Rhein/Westfalen	23	4198
Railways	2	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS:	118	7680

D.P. Population = 137,387  
German Population = 23,678,856

D.P.'s. arrested per 100,000 of population = 85.9  
Germans " " " " " = 33.9



CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters,  
Control Commission for Germany  
(British Element),  
BERLIN, B.A.O.R. 2.

May, 1949

SUBJECT:- Crime in Displaced Persons' Camps.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your confidential despatch No. 166, (CG/543/543/184) dated 25th March, 1949.

The powers of the German Police over Displaced Persons are governed by Zonal Executive Instruction No. 2, dated 30th January, 1947, (as amended) entitled "Treatment of Displaced Persons". I am enclosing a copy of the relevant extract for facility of reference at Appendix "A".

Paragraph 23 of the Instruction deals specifically with the trial of Displaced Persons in German Courts and the powers of the German Police over Displaced Persons both inside and outside their Camps; these powers do not differ from those held with regard to German civilians. This paragraph also authorises the establishment of German Police Stations in these Displaced Persons' Camps which are known to harbour elements responsible for crimes against the German population.

From a study of this Instruction it will be readily seen that in theory at least, the only limitation on freedom of action and the exercise of normal Police powers in dealing with Displaced Persons, directly imposed on Police for political reasons, relates to their right to enter Displaced Persons' Camps. The extent to which the Police are handicapped by the necessity of observing this limitation I will discuss later in this memorandum.

There is no doubt that criminally inclined Displaced Persons living in Camps are responsible for an inordinate number of certain types of crime, notably crimes of violence against the person, thefts of livestock and cattle, etc. Certain Camps are notorious centres of black market and connected fraudulent activities.

The extent of violent crime committed by Displaced Persons and the effectiveness of German Police action in dealing with those responsible for it, may be seen from the table at Appendix "B". This shows the number of Displaced Persons and Germans arrested for crimes against the person during the first quarter of this year to be 85.9 per 100,000 for Displaced Persons as compared with 33.9 per 100,000 for Germans. Police success in dealing with crimes of this type by Displaced Persons may be attributed to the fact that the victims are generally innocent persons, that the crimes are committed outside the Camps, are brought to immediate notice and the victims usually provide ready and adequate evidence both with regard to the commission of the crime itself and the probable identity of the offender. Thus Police are enabled to take immediate and vigorous action without having regard to political considerations. A further contributory factor is that the commission of this type of crime is unpopular with and therefore discouraged by both Camp Committees, that is to say, representative Committees constituted from Camp inmates, and the less violently disposed Displaced persons, principally because of the widespread unfavourable publicity usually attending such crimes; the immediate Police attention they attract and the fact that they profit only the individual at the expense of the D.P. community as a whole. It follows, therefore, that where co-operation from Camp Committees or their Police is an essential to success such co-operation is more often and readily forthcoming in connection with the investigation of violent than non-violent crime.

/The .....

The position in respect of other types of crime, such as smuggling, forgery of ration documents and currency offences etc. is not so satisfactory. The chief reason for this is that the taking of effective action by Police against Displaced Persons for such crime is hampered by the necessity for, and the delay in, tracing the original source of such activities from the place they first came to Police attention back to D.P. Camps. This process naturally detracts from the reliability and clarity of the evidence available to Police regarding the guilt and identity of any D.P. offenders and deprives Police action against them of directness and vigour. It also frequently imposes a need for corroborative evidence being obtained - evidence which usually can only be secured within the Camps themselves with the co-operation of Camp Committees, their Police or other inmates. The likelihood of such co-operation forthcoming is extremely remote as crimes of this nature are more often than not committed on an organized basis and receive the passive, if not active, support of the Camp Committees, their Police and inmates.

*DP Camp inmates generally*

It therefore follows that the most serious obstacle to effective Police action against D.P. criminal elements lies not in the delay imposed on the Police by their having to observe certain formalities before entering D.P. Camps, but in the fact that Displaced Persons regard themselves as a privileged people, are devoid of any sense of civic responsibility or loyalty to the German community or State in which they live and in many cases are possessed of a deep seated hatred towards Germans to whom they attribute all their ills - real or imaginary. In these circumstances it is not surprising that effective co-operation between Camp Committees, their Police and inhabitants, and the German Police in the suppression and detection of crime of a non-violent nature committed outside of Camps, or directly affecting only the Germans or the German economy, is generally lukewarm and often non-existent and that Camps are used by criminally inclined D.Ps as bases from which to operate and to which they can eventually return for sanctuary and protection.

It would be quite wrong to give the impression that all D.P. Camps are equally blame-worthy in this regard, culpability naturally varies as between Camps and in the main is confined to those Camps whose inmates are predominantly Polish. In certain Camps, especially those in which German Police posts have been established, co-operation between Camp Committees, etc. and German Police is often adequate and sometimes even good. However, it must not be assumed from this that the establishment of Police posts in every Camp, irrespective of the attitude of the Camp Committees or the feelings of the inhabitants, would go far towards solving the vexed problem of controlling and reducing D.P. crime.

Experience has shown that the establishment of German Police posts in Camps is worth while only in cases where such have been erected with the approval of the Camp Committees and the tacit consent of the majority of the Camp inmates. This becomes obvious when considering the ease with which such posts can be rendered practically ineffective by passive obstruction, such as refusal to co-operate with the Police in any way. The practicability of this measure is further reduced by the likelihood that its adoption in relation to certain Camps would give rise to undesirable political repercussions outside and disturbances and demonstrations within those Camps. The weight of these considerations is particularly apparent in the case of Hühne Camp which accommodates the majority of the 5,430 Jewish D.Ps now in the Zone and is a noted centre of black market and connected fraudulent activities.

From the above it is clear that the effectiveness of action against crime by D.Ps is not seriously impaired by the necessity to limit Police action for reason of political consideration. It is also obvious, however, that criminally inclined D.Ps derive considerable advantages from the fact that, owing to political considerations, they are maintained in close and convenient association in circumstances which encourage crime and render vigorous and effective preventative and detective action by German Police difficult.

The obvious solution of closing the Camps is clearly out of the question. To rely on the programme of resettlement and emigration will

*/prolong .....*

preventing the present unsatisfactory state and result in a residue of hard-core of D.P.s being left on our hands in Camps composed of the aged, the sick, the blind and the criminals who are incapable of being resettled and unacceptable to other countries as emigrants. It has been suggested, that the only effective and acceptable way in which the high incidence of crime by D.P.s can materially be reduced is by depriving D.P.s convicted of serious crime of any particular material benefits, for example, I.R.O. maintenance which pertains to D.P. status and the right to live in Camps, and to disperse them to the German economy. This would not only apply to D.P.s convicted in Germany but also to those who have immigrated to other countries, have been convicted of crimes there and in consequence have been deported back to Germany.

If adopted this course would deprive criminal elements within the D.P. population of the advantages that they now hold by reason of their D.P. status and their living in D.P. Camps, act as a strong deterrent to criminal activities and automatically reduce the hard-core of D.P.s resident in Camps who are unsuitable for resettlement or emigration. I do not believe there is any suitable alternative suggestion for the reduction of D.P. crime, or that there would be any serious political objection to adopting the course I have mentioned.

I have the honour to be with  
the highest respect  
Sir,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,

Military Governor and  
Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, P.C., M.P.,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.



CENTRAL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH SECTOR)

GENERAL EXECUTIVE OFFICE

GENERAL EXECUTIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

Dated 30th JANUARY, 1947

TREATMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS

TRIAL OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN GERMAN COURTS AND POWERS OF GERMAN POLICE.

23. (a) It is H.M.G.'s policy that, at a later date, Displaced Persons will come within the jurisdiction of German Courts. For the present, however, they will remain under the jurisdiction of Central Commission Courts.
- (b) The German Police are empowered to deal with Displaced Persons as German civilians, both inside and outside Displaced Persons' Camps.
  - (1) When the German Police in the execution of their lawful functions, have occasion to enter a D.P. Camp, they should first report to the PW/MP Division representative, if in the Camp, or to the Camp Leader or his Deputy, or in their absence to the Chief of the Camp Police, who must afford every facility to the German Police in carrying out their lawful task. In every case of such entry into a D.P. Camp, the reasons for, and results of this action will be reported with the least possible delay by the senior German Police Officer concerned, to the Public Safety Officer responsible for the supervision of the German Police Force in whose district the D.P. Camp lies. This Public Safety Officer will in turn report the facts to the R/B Commander and to the 'R' Detachment Commander responsible for the supervision of the particular Camp.
  - (ii) Where time and circumstances permit, the German Police will inform the nearest Public Safety Officer before entry into the Camp is made. If police action will not be prejudiced by the consequent delay the Public Safety Officer will inform the 'R' Detachment Commander of the action proposed who will, if possible, arrange for a representative to be present. A Public Safety Officer will also attend if possible, but urgent police action is not to be impeded or unduly delayed by any difficulties that may arise in securing the presence of PW/MP and Public Safety representatives.
  - (iii) Where it becomes necessary to plan a large scale search of a D.P. Camp, the German Police who desire to take this action, must give prior information to the Public Safety Officer responsible for the supervision of their Force. The Public Safety Officer will act as in paragraph (b) (ii) above, and will, if he considers it necessary, request that the search be made a Military Operation. In this event, the Public Safety Officer concerned will be present throughout the search, along with any number of the German Police whose presence is required for purposes of identification. Applications for assistance will be made by the R/B Commander in accordance with Appendix "U" to HRG/306/1/G(Ops) dated 28.5.47.

- (iv) The Chief of a Police Force in whose area a registered Displaced Person is arrested shall cause the Camp Staff of the Displaced Persons Assembly Centre, with which he is registered, to be notified of the fact by the quickest possible means.
- (c) Further additional measures to ensure that the powers granted to the German Police will be implemented forthwith are as follows:-
  - (i) Specific orders should be given for the return to Stores of all arms issued to or in possession of the D.P. Police.
  - (ii) Consequently upon (c) (i) above, all D.Ps. should again be warned that under Control Council Order No. 2 of 7th January, 1946 and Mil. Gov. Ordinance No. 1, paragraph 9, illicit possession of arms and ammunition is an offense punishable with the death penalty.
  - (iii) The activities of the D.P. Police will be strictly confined to the maintenance of discipline and order within the Camp perimeter.
  - (iv) In consultation with Deputy Inspectors General, Public Safety, Regional Commissioners should consider the advisability of establishing strong German Police Stations of appropriate strengths in those D.P. Camps known to harbour criminal elements responsible for crimes against the German population. These German Police Stations should be established and organized with the assistance of Public Safety Officers, Local Governments and local German Police authorities.
  - (v) German Police may, when authorized by Public Safety Officers, request relevant information in specific cases concerning registered D.Ps. to be supplied by the local "R" Detachment Commander or Arbeitsamt Manager.
- (d) The above instructions do not alter the procedure to be followed when Allied Nationals have been arrested by the German Police for any offense.
- (e) 21 Army Group Military Government Instructions Nos. 34 and 68, issued under references 21 A Gp/16122/11/CA/Mil Gov and 21 A Gp/36181/2/CA/Mil Gov are hereby cancelled.

APPENDIX 'B'

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON

Table of Arrests during January, February  
and March, 1949 in the British Zone of Germany.

<u>Region.</u>	<u>D.P.'s. arrested.</u>	<u>Germans arrested.</u>
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	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS:	118	7680

D.P. Population = 137,387

German Population = 23,678,856

D.P.'s. arrested per 100,000 of population = 85.9 -

Germans " " " " " = 33.9 -



1 September, 1949

To: Chief, Intelligence Division, Harford  
Chief, DP Division, Lange  
Zonal Office, Public Safety Adviser, Bunde  
Zonal Office, Legal Adviser, Harford

**SUBJECT: Criminal Activities centred on DP Camps**

1. In consequence of indications that DP Camps continue to foster crime and that they constitute centres for the organisation of gang robberies and black market activities, to the detriment of public security, it is desired to re-examine the problem with a view to combatting such criminal activities.

2. For this purpose a Committee will be constituted as follows:

Chairman: Brigadier G. de Bruges - AGOS (Exec) A

Members: Nominated by: Chief Intelligence Division  
Public Safety Adviser  
Deputy Legal Adviser  
Chief, DP Division

It is proposed to request the attendance of the Zonal Narcotics Control Officer and a representative of the Zonal IRO as and when may be required.

3. The Committee, as indicated in para 2 above, will hold its first Meeting at 1415 hours on 15th September, 1949 in the Tax House Lisbon.

4. It is proposed to examine and report on:-

- (a) The extent to which criminal activities can be traced to DP Camps;
- (b) Whether such activities are increasing or declining and the circumstances leading to any such increase or decrease;
- (c) To what extent criminal activities can be confined to certain specific groups or Camps;
- (d) What action to reduce such criminal activities is being taken and to what extent to which it is effective;
- (e) What further measures to reduce criminal activities should be considered and to what extent they can be applied.

*LaBunye Bury*  
Major-General,  
Chief Administrative Officer and  
Deputy Chief of Staff (Executive)

Copy to: Zonal Office of the Financial Adviser, (Exec) Nintan  
DP Branch, Political Division, Berlin  
AGOS (Exec) B  
AGOS (Exec) Co-ord

/MR

File.

Ref: 367

REF/11145/Ans 'C'

CONFIDENTIAL

Office of the CAO/DOSS (Hess),  
Lubbock,  
BAGR 1.

22 September, 1949

To: Office of the Land Commissioner,  
Niederrhein,  
BAGR 5.

SUBJECT: Criminal Activities Centred on DP Camps

1. In consequence of indications that DP Camps continue to foster crime and constitute centres for the organisation of gang robberies and black market activities to the detriment of public security, a committee has been set up, on the instructions of the Chief of Staff, under the chairmanship of AOOS (A) to examine the problem and to make recommendations for reducing such activities.
2. This committee has extensive terms of reference, and in order to acquaint itself with all aspects of the problem, considers it desirable to question various authorities on the ground.
3. It would be appreciated, therefore, if you would arrange for the following, duly briefed on the present situation, to be in attendance at the second meeting of the committee, which will be held at 1415 hours on the 7th October, 1949 in Tax House, Lubbock:-

Brunswick

The Assistant Commissioner, or a Senior representative  
The R Det Commander  
The Senior Public Safety Officer, or representative  
A DPACOS Commander

Linsberg

The Assistant Commissioner, or a Senior representative  
The R Det Commander  
The Senior Public Safety Officer, or representative  
Commander No. 45 DPACOS

4. You are, of course, invited to send representatives should you so desire.

McVittie

Brigadier,  
Assistant Chief of Staff (Executive) A

Copy to: DP Division, Langs.

ACOS(A)

5A

1. Herewith draft minutes of  
your DP crisis meeting. They have been  
held up for the statistics from P.S.  
which have still not arrived. We are chasing.

I wrote to Nidenshausen about getting  
Assistant Commissioners etc for next meeting,  
letter to Folio 4A. And later spoke to  
Col James (R.G.O.), who suggested it  
might be easier if the meeting could be  
held at ~~Hannover~~ instead of here as it is

- (a) more central for Lüneburg & Brunswick
- (b) easier for <sup>him</sup> to see that his

Assistant Commissioners speak with one voice  
Will you agree to change of venue to Hannover?

W.H. 20/9. Yes, send  
out signal W.H.



FILE:- 011145

Control Commission for Germany (British Element)

**Outgoing Confidential Cipher Message**

**UNPARAPHRASED**

FROM: CONCOMB LUBBECKE

TO: LOWSAX NIEDERSACHSEN  
(Tel. No. 6)

INFO: PUBLIC SAFETY BUNDE  
LEGAL DIVISION HERFORD  
DP DIVISION LEMGO

D. 1720 03 Oct. 1949  
R. 1730 03 Oct. 1949

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject is: Criminal Activities centred at DP Camps.

Reference EXEC/11145/G dated 22nd September.

The Meeting to be held on the 7th October will now take place in Stirling House, HANNOVER, at 1500 hrs.

ORIGINATOR:

'G' SECT: OFF OF THE CAO/DCOS (EXEC) ✓

DISTRIBUTION:

OFF OF PUBLIC SAFETY ADV BUNDE (2)

DISP. PERS. DIV. LEMGO

ZONAL OFF OF LEGAL ADV HERFORD (2)

M & MC

MVV/FMM



# CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH ELEMENT)

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM FORM

C.C.G. FORM (SMALL)

CALL SERIAL No. PRIORITY TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS T. H. I.

FROM <b>OSWINS - LUNENBURG</b>	FOR ACTION <b>LOWEY - KIDDERBACH</b>						
REPEATED <b>PUBLIC SAFETY - BUREAU</b> <b>LEGAL DIVISION - HANNOVER</b> <b>IP DIVISION - LUNENBURG</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION</td> <td><b>CONFIDENTIAL</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEGREE OF PRIORITY</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TIME OF ORIGIN</td> <td><i>London</i></td> </tr> </table>	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	DEGREE OF PRIORITY		TIME OF ORIGIN	<i>London</i>
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>						
DEGREE OF PRIORITY							
TIME OF ORIGIN	<i>London</i>						

DATED **OCTOBER, 1949 (.)**

SUBJECT IS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES ORIGINATED AT DP CAMPS (.)

REFERENCE HXND/11145/6 DATED 22ND SEPTEMBER (.)

THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 7TH OCTOBER WILL NOW TAKE PLACE IN STERLING HOUSE,  
HANNOVER, AT 1500 HRS

SIGNATURE  
APPOINTMENT  
DIV/GP  
TELEPHONE NUMBER

T. O. R.

TIME CLEARED

INITIALS

ORIGINATOR: **Miss M. R. HARRIS, 'G' Section**  
ORIGINATOR'S REF. No.: **HXND/11145/6**  
INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:

7a  
CONFIDENTIAL

MEETING HELD IN TAX HOUSE, LUBBECKE ON 15TH SEPTEMBER AT 1415 HOURS.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES CENTRED ON DP CAMPS.

THERE WERE PRESENT:

Brigadier G. de Bruyne - Chairman - Assistant Chief of Staff (Exco) A  
Colonel R. O. Pulverman (Retd) - Assistant Chief of Staff (Co-ord)  
- Mr. K. W. Matthews - Displaced Persons Division  
- Mr. J. Timmerman - Public Safety Branch  
- Mr. A. H. Rugg - Intelligence Division  
- Mr. A. E. E. Reade - Zonal Office of the Legal Adviser  
(Prosecutions Section)

SECRETARIAT

Major W. G. M. Spens (Retd)

Miss M. B. Elmes

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by stating that, as a result of a newspaper article which had suggested that DP Camps were centres for gang robberies and black market activity, the Chief of Staff had instructed that a committee should be set up to examine the problem of such alleged criminal activities and to make recommendations to combat them.

He proposed that the committee should consider and discuss certain aspects of the problem under separate headings as follows:-

- (a) The extent to which criminal activities can be traced to DP Camps.
- (b) Whether such activities are increasing or declining and the circumstances leading to any such increase or decrease.
- (c) To what extent criminal activities are confined to certain specific groups or Camps.
- (d) What action to reduce such criminal activities is being taken and the extent to which it is effective.

2. Before considering the aspects separately the Chairman asked for general comments on the problem.

Legal Division representative did not expect to be of any material assistance to the committee at this stage, as only specific cases came to the notice of his Division when prosecutions were initiated.

Intelligence Division representative pointed out that his Department were not concerned with crime as such and thought it unlikely that he would be able to give information of any particular assistance to the Committee, although from time to time in the course of their departmental investigations they come across irregularities which would be of interest. He suggested that it was more probable that the investigations of the other committee members would bring to light matters in which Intelligence Division were interested. He asked that the present good liaison between Public Safety, D.P. Division and his Department in this respect might continue. He particularly requested that he might receive any information arising out of the investigations of the committee which showed any security lapse, including espionage, irregular contacts with various foreign missions or any form of group subsidising propaganda programmes.

/Displaced

Displaced Persons Division representative stated that he was anxious that no undue publicity should be given to the criminality among DPs at a time when camps were being wound up and everything possible being done to settle DPs on the German economy.

3. The meeting then considered the different aspects of the problem.

(a) The extent to which Criminal Activities can be traced to DP Camps

- (i) Public Safety representative gave certain statistics which in his opinion showed conclusively that a higher proportion of criminal activity per head of the population could be traced to DPs than to the German population. He agreed however that in compiling these figures the number of crimes attributed to DPs was calculated by the German police on the status as a DP of the individual criminal concerned, whereas the total number of DPs against which these latter were held to be a proportion, was that of DPs in Camps, and did not take into account those DPs living on the German economy and that this, therefore, showed the percentage of criminal DPs as higher than was accurate. The meeting agreed that such statistics tended to throw an unfair onus of criminality on the DP population generally in view of the vast difference between the total DP and German populations, but that such statistics had a certain value, and

(3) (a) THE CHAIRMAN

invited Public Safety to provide such up-to-date statistics for the next meeting.

- (ii) Public Safety Representative was of the opinion that, in general, many violent crimes could be traced to DPs, although it was not possible to give an opinion as to the responsibility for them as between DPs in Camps and DPs on the German economy. It was, however, suggested that a higher degree of criminality was to be expected in DP Camps through the peculiar circumstances of camp life, than among DPs living on the German economy, who were aware that Germans might well inform on them.

Intelligence Division representative stated that he was aware of criminal activities in a number of camps, including a wide system of documentary and currency forgery and of general black marketing contact systems.

DP Division representative stated that in his opinion - ignoring the minor black marketing activity which might be expected from the circumstances of camp life, mainly involving individual transactions over gift parcels and commodities - there was not a large, organised bad element among DPs. Hohne Camp might, however, be an exception. He regretted the stigma which was attached to DPs generally because of what he regarded as a small criminal "hard core".

(b) Increase or decline of such activities and circumstances leading to such increase or decrease.

Public Safety representatives agreed that the crime rate had come down but that general crimes still constituted a problem, due to what was, in his opinion, a "hard core" of desperate major criminals who, by taking advantage of DP facilities, gave the DPs generally their bad name. He considered that the position had improved due to an improved camp administration, the greater powers of the police and their increased efficiency and the fact that larger numbers of criminal DPs were now in prison for long terms. With the greatly improved state of the German economy, profits from criminal activity were not now so great.

/The



The general tightening up of restrictions concerning gift parcels had acted as a deterrent with regard to small crimes.

DP Representative considered that a certain improvement might be traced to the fact that eligibility for emigration was affected by good conduct records.

- (c) The extent to which criminal activities are confined to certain specific groups or Camps.

Public Safety Representative stated that Hohne Camp was notorious for money-making crimes, and Intelligence Division Representative said that his Division were aware that Hohne was active both in document and currency forgery and in international smuggling. The still high rate of violent crimes attributed to the Poles, must be offset by the high percentage of Poles amongst DPs.

DP Division Representative pointed out that the camp populations would not continue to be static as hitherto, but would become much more mobile due to redistribution before settlement on the German economy.

- (d) Action being taken to reduce such criminal activities and the extent to which it is effective.

Public Safety Representative said that the greater powers already given to the Police had had considerable effect. In their opinion further powers were not practicable. Police Posts within the camps had proved of considerable assistance in certain camps. If, however, they were to be effective, it was necessary to have the co-operation both of the Camp Leader and the inmates. In many places this co-operation was good; otherwise the Police Post was quite useless.

DP Division Representative pointed out that, although Police Posts might be of considerable help in the cases of major crimes - which the more law-abiding type of DP deplored as bringing a stigma on the name of DPs - they were of no assistance in obtaining information of petty thefts against Germans, which were not regarded by the average DP as "crimes". He was glad to note recent developments in I.R.O., whereby it was possible that DPs exploiting their I.R.O. protection might have to forfeit their I.R.O. eligibility. It was, however, unlikely that such eligibility would be withdrawn except after a Court conviction.

The Chairman then referred to a Staff Study which had been submitted to the Chief of Staff in which a similar recommendation had been made.

(3) THE CHAIRMAN

- (b) instructed the Secretariat to enquire whether this recommendation has been accepted or not.

4. After further discussion, it was agreed that various authorities on the ground should be called to attend the next meeting to report on the present situation from their own angle and to suggest what further measures could effectively be taken to reduce criminal activities.

(4) THE CHAIRMAN

- (a) instructed the Secretariat to invite certain RB Commanders and staff, DPAC's Commanders, and a representative from Hohne Camp, to attend the next meeting.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING : It has been arranged that the next meeting will be held at Stirling House, Hannover on 7th October, 1949, at 1500 hours.



Translation

Confidential.

Der Chef der Polizei  
im Polizeibezirk Lüneburg  
Deto. I/K.

Lüneburg, 30 Sept 1949  
Beim St. Benedikt 10

To:- Public Safety  
Assistant Commissioner's Office  
LUENEBURG, BAOR. 8

Crimes committed by Displaced Persons.

1. I was very pleased that the urgent problem concerning displaced persons was again discussed on 28.9.49 (conference between Public Safety and Chief of Police). If the question concerning displaced persons could be settled to a certain extent, considerable difficulties would be eliminated in which the German Police is at present engaged in an effort to combat crime and to maintain law and order. Considering the development without prejudice of the present situation, the following picture is obtained from a German point of view:

(a) When Germany was occupied by Allied Forces a great number of persons displaced by force to Germany were liberated. Partly they were accommodated in Camps, partly they were accommodated in small groups. Most of these displaced persons in consequence of their suffered hardship and humiliation showed a humanly justified feeling of hate and ~~aversion~~ against the German population. The consequences were looting, murder, robberies committed with murder and other serious crimes. Shortly after the occupation of Germany this type of crime was committed in short intervals in those districts in which DPs were accommodated in a great number. The state of the Police at that time was not fully efficient. The Allied Troops, taking over the welfare of the displaced persons and being engaged in most important tasks were not able to carry out additionally the normal Police duties. The reaction of the Germans concerned was not only disgust and fear, but also an increasing dislike and even hate against the inmates of the DP-Camps.

*refugees?* X  
In consequence of repatriation and emigration to other countries the number of displaced persons decreased. Despite this fact the actual strength of each of the DP Camps did not show any essential change, due to the influx of persons, the number of whom cannot be stated, into the DP Camps of the Western Zones of Occupation. These displaced persons arrived from DP Camps of the Russian Zone of Occupation and some of these arrived from the Eastern States for some reason or the other and settled themselves into the DP Camps of the Western Zones of Occupation. As a result of this, only a small portion of the present inmates of DP Camps are actual DPs. Further to this, persons are living in DP Camps who voluntarily came to Germany and are usurping rights which only refer to persons who were actually displaced to Germany before the war was finished.

The difficulties of the German Police arising from this development are still increasing because the criminal elements in the DP Camps often move from one Camp to the other without being registered. These criminal elements mostly change their residences as a result of crimes committed by them in that special area. One is not able to state whether these persons are actually displaced persons or Aliens who immigrated later.

It can be stated that the serious crimes - like murder, robbery with murder and looting - decreased in the course of the years

1948 and 1949 in comparison to 1945 till 1947. The offences against property, however - theft, burglary, cattle theft - are still high in number and the inmates of DP Camps are to a considerable extent taking part in the commission of these crimes.

Although the German Police is entitled to enter DP Camps in connection with crimes, the result of their efforts, however, depends on the good cooperation of the Camp Police. This cooperation was not always satisfactory, but was sometimes obviously neglected. The difficult situation of the Camp Police towards the German Police is fully appreciated. It is certainly hard for a Camp Policeman to betray or to hand over to the German Police a criminal countryman being pursued by the German Police. In consequence of this attitude the difficulties of the German Police in combatting crime should not be misunderstood or depreciated. The above mentioned difficulties will be removed if the problem of the DPs as a total has satisfactorily been solved.

X It is a fact that certain DP Camps have developed in the course of the last years into centres of crime. Professional criminals met on certain places and were working together in gangs. Many of the displaced persons had no employment, but they still demanded an improvement of their standard of living.

X The geographical position of the individual DP Camps in the rural districts does not guarantee an adequate supervision by the Police. Sentences of OCG Courts do not deter the criminals amongst the DPs as the convicted DPs often commit further crimes immediately after they have been released from prison.

2. To prove the importance of the consequences on the criminal side, I herewith attach a statistic and furthermore the evidence available. According to the documents the point of view taken by the German Police in the matter of DP Camps is not unfounded and my suggestions, therefore, should be kindly taken into consideration.

3. To cooperate at least to a certain extent on the solving of these problems, I herewith submit the following suggestions:

Concerning (a) For the three Western Zones of the German Republic the German Laws, at present in force, should also apply to DPs and Aliens. The existing difference in the legal treatment of DPs and Aliens in the Western Zones should be abolished.

(b) All DPs should be subject to the German Law without exception.

No (c) When moving from one camp to the other all DPs should be obliged to notify the German registration office according to the German Registration Ordinances (see Appendix 'A').

(d) All DP Camps should be disbanded as far as lack of accommodation would not render the execution of such a plan impossible.

(e) Disbanding of smaller camps and concentration of DPs in big Camps in case the existing lack of accommodation makes the disbanding of all Camps impossible. In such a case DP Camps should be established in the neighbourhood of a strong German Police station for the purpose of guaranteeing the necessary Police supervision. If necessary such a Police station should be reinforced for the maintenance of Law and Order in the area of such Camps. The normal strength of the Police could gradually be reestablished, being dependant on the decrease of the number of DP Camp inmates.

I hope that these suggestions may contribute to the solving of the whole problem of the DPs.

I would appreciate any assistance given to me on future conferences.

(sgd) KRATZENBERG

Translation

Statistical Appendix to the Report of the Chief of Police  
Police District Lueneburg Det. I/K - dated 30-9-1949.

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To:- Public Safety  
Assistant Commissioner's Office  
LUENEBURG, BAOR 8.

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Subject:- Crimes Committed by Displaced Persons.

1. During the time under review, the 1st of July 1948 to 30 of July 1949, the total number of the population in RB Lueneburg amounted to 1,067,021.  
Amongst the population were 27,021 Aliens accommodated in DP Camps, this means a percentage of 2.6 of the total population.
2. From the 1st of July 1948 to the 30 of June 1949, 32,576 cases of offences have been registered and investigated by the Police in Police District Lueneburg. This figure comprises offences committed by Germans and Aliens.
3. From 32,576 offences, 30,857 Germans (2.9% of the total of the population) and 1,719 DPs (6.36% of the total of the population) participated in crime. In order to explain these figures it must be emphasized that considering the percentage of share concerning Germans and Aliens participating in crime, the picture changes in favour of the Aliens in so far as women and children are contained in the number of the German population whilst to the greater extent inmates of DP Camps are male persons.
4. Detected Cases.  
32,576 offences have been investigated by the German Police during the time of 1 July 1948 and 30 June 1949. Of these, 19,301 offences have been detected.
5. Undetected Cases.  
From the total of 32,576 offences, 13,275 (41%) have not been detected.  
From these 793 have allegedly been committed by Aliens as certain Police investigations justify this allegation. That means that Aliens give a share of 5.97% in undetected cases.  
The percentage of participation in undetected cases by Aliens, however, is far higher because a number of undetected offences can be considered as committed by Aliens according to their modus operandi. This percentage of undetected cases, allegedly committed by Aliens, has not been recorded.
6. Arrests.  
From 1,040,000 Germans, resident in RB Lueneburg, 23,549 Germans (2.26%) have been arrested on account of crimes committed. In the same period 926 (3.43%) Aliens (out of 27,021 Aliens) have been arrested.



Statistics of Crimes committed by Germans and Aliens during the time  
of 1 July 1948 and 30 June 1949:-

Total of German Population:-	1,040,000			
Total of inmates of DP Camps:-				27,021
Offences	committed	detected	Germans arrested	Aliens
Murder (attempted murder)	51	24	28	19
Robbery	102	30	40	19
Bodily injury	803	665	850	51
Sexual Offences	334	228	208	13
Use of Firearms	69	31	23	35
Aggravated Theft	4434	1012	1586	100
Theft	10483	4383	5827	116
Cattle Theft	2423	488	803	126
Unlawful possession of Allied Property	333	313	394	30
Other offences contrary to the German Penal Code	8921	8164	9386	427

X Considering these statistics, the high percentage of the Aliens' participation in capital crimes, particularly murder and attempted murder, is striking. Comparing the relative low percentage of Aliens living in DP Camps with the total of the German population resident in this RB, one will notice that Crimes committed by DPs are comparatively high.

8. The above mentioned figures do not essentially differ from those of the years 1946 and 1947. This shows that in the years after the war, the participation of DPs in crime is not subject to essential fluctuations - with the exception of capital crimes. Only the year 1945 with its consequences of a lost war showed a specially brutal activity of Aliens in all kinds of crimes. Statistics were not kept at that time.
9. Undermentioned is a brief outline of some of the most sensational crimes which also show the danger of the Alien offender:-

Murder of two Policemen in LK Lueneburg.

Though this crime has not been committed during the time under review, the murder of two Policemen by shooting in LK Lueneburg in the year 1947 is characteristic for the cold-blooded use of weapons by Poles against Police officers. According to Police investigations it was obvious that 2 Poles were responsible for this crime, who were convicted of other serious offences, but due to lack of evidence could not be sentenced on the charge of murder.

Murder of a Police Officer in LK Uelzen.

In the evening of 26 June 1948 Polizeimeister Wiens of LK Uelzen was attacked and murdered by shooting on an open road by a gang of five Poles. The body was found in a forest, covered with earth. This most dangerous gang all of whom were armed, were responsible for a number of serious crimes committed in Land Niedersachsen.

Robbery in LK Burgdorf.

On 28 Aug 48, the farmer's wife named Krake living at Obershagen/LK Burgdorf was attacked, beaten up and choked by two Aliens in the middle of the day on a road.

Robbery in Fallingb.otel.

During the night to the 8 September 48 three masked foreigners broke into the residence of an inhabitant of Fallingb.otel, named Schulze, and stole a number of valuables as clothing, jewelry and cash, under threat of firearms. The offenders have been ascertained in a Polish DP Camp near Hannover.



Robbery in LK Burgdorf.

Two Lithuanians from DP Camp "Churchill" attacked in the evening of 25 Sept 48 two inhabitants of Lehrte. The offenders tried to steal the wallet of the attacked persons. They recklessly stabbed the victims in consequence of which their lives were endangered.

Attempted Murder of Police Official in LK Celle.

During the night of 26 Nov 48 two Police officers from LK Celle were shot at from ambush by unknown escaped Poles when they were on duty. The subsequent shooting between the Police officers and the offenders lasted for 90 minutes.

On 2 Dec 48 a Yugoslave DP Camp has been searched by 5 Kripi- and 16 Police officers. A considerable amount of goods have been impounded. The inmates resisted, surrounded the Police squad and one of the Yugoslaves fired six shots from a pistol, injuring a Kripi officer by a shot into the shoulder and a Police Wachtmeister by a shot into his thigh. Only after a Police-reinforcement of 120 men had been mobilized, the search of the Camp could be concluded.

On the 23 Mar 1949 a Police Officer of LK Fallingb. has been shot at by a Pole suspected of burglary.

On the 14 May 49 three Police officers from LK Soltan caught a gang of three Poles in the act of a pig theft. The armed Poles shot at the Police officers and injured one of them by a shot through the right hand. At a search action for the offenders in the DP Camp Wolterdingen, 33 Aliens have been arrested with the exception of the pig thieves. The arrested persons were connected with burglaries and other aggravated crimes in the area of LK Soltan.

10. Names and Situation of DP Camps within RB Lüneburg.

- (a) DP Camp "HEIDENAU"/LK Harburg, - 1066 inmates.  
is situated near the village Heidenau, is fenced in and comparatively easy to supervise. The inmates are mainly Ukrainians. Co-operation with the Camp Police quite satisfactory.
- (b) DP Camp "OERREL"/LK Soltan, - 900 inmates.  
is situated near the village Oerrel. Although fenced in on three sides, it is difficult to supervise the Camp. The camp has its own Camp Police. Good hiding possibilities for criminal DPs.
- (c) DP Camp "WOLTERDINGEN", - 950 inmates (LK Soltan).  
situated approx. 1 kilometre off the village Wolterdingen, fenced in, own Camp Police, supervision of the DPs possible. A great number of dangerous criminals already known and registered by the German Police are inmates of this Camp.
- (d) DP Camp "BERGEN-BELSEN"/LK Celle, - 4935 inmates.  
Due to the large size this Camp is very difficult to supervise. Offers the best hiding places for criminal Aliens. Bergen-Belsen is the centre for black market, a paradise for wanted persons, as the German Police are not entitled to enter the Camp. Transit place for black market goods and main collecting place for stolen cattle. Own Camp Police.
- (e) DP Camp "UNTERLUSSA"/LK Celle, - 666 inmates.  
about 600 metres distant from the village Unterlussa, entirely surrounded by woods and offers to the inmates as Poles, Latvians and Ukrainians best hiding places. Due to the extraordinary situation of this Camp, it is extremely difficult to keep this Camp under control.

- (f) DP Camp "CHURCHILL"/LK Burgdorf - 644 inmates.  
situated on the outskirts of Lehrte, inmates Estonians and Lithuanians, own Camp Police, good supervision of the Camp.
- (g) DP Camp "COLORADO"/LK Burgdorf - 529 inmates  
about 600 metres distant from the next village.  
Forest nearby, good supervision.
- (h) DP Camp "OHIO"/LK Burgdorf - 807 inmates.  
in the neighbourhood of Burgdorf. Inmates Poles and Ukrainians; own Camp Police, supervision and control guaranteed.
- (i) DP Camp "EMIGRATIONS-ZENTRA"/LK Fallingb. - 7500 inmates.  
1500 metres distant from Fallingb., in direct neighbourhood of big forests. International transit-camp; international Camp Police. Supervision and control possible.
- (j) DP Camp "EMIGRATIONS-ZENTRA"/at Bensfeld, LK Fallingb.,  
7500 inmates.  
Camp has been disbanded in the meantime.
- (k) DP CAMP "BODENTEICH"/LK Welsen - 255 inmates.  
1500 metres distant from Bodenteich, situated in the middle of the woods. The Camp is badly to be supervised and controlled.
- (l) LATVIAN DP CAMP "AM WERDER"/LK Celle  
The Camp Commander refused to supply the German Police with any information regarding number of the inmates. Own Camp Police. Inmates are Latvians, Estonians and stateless persons. The Camp is near Celle town; good supervision and control.
- (m) DP Camp "DEDELSTORF"/LK Gifhorn - 792 inmates.  
situated in the middle of a forest, 2.5 kilometres distant from the next village, difficult supervision. Own Camp Police. Cooperation between the German Police and the British Camp Commander satisfactory.
- (n) Yugoslave Camp "WOLFSBURG"/LK Gifhorn - last number of inmates 377.  
Camp in the meantime disbanded.
- (o) DP Camp "BENEFEELD"/LK Fallingb.  
Camp was occupied by about 100 PDs and has been disbanded.

APPENDIX 'A'

Extract from  
REGISTRATION ORDINANCE  
issued 1st April, 1949

Para 2.

A person moving into a new lodging has to report for registration to the Registration Office within one week after taking up his residence there. When coming from another community, he has to produce a certificate of departure from the former residence if this lodging is not retained. If the lodging is retained, this has to be stated when registering. The obligation for registration is independent from a "permit to take up residence". Lodgings, in the meaning of this Ordinance, is any accommodation, also for sleeping purposes only.

Para 3

A person leaving an accommodation has to report for registration with the Registration Office within one week, stating his new accommodation or his whereabouts if he has not yet a new residence.

Para 4

Liable to report a person for registration, except the person concerned, are  
(a) the owner of the house for all persons living in the house,  
(b) the person giving accommodation, for all persons living with him.

Para 5

The person concerned complies with his obligation for registration when he personally hands in the Registration Form, in triplicate, filled in and signed by him, the person giving accommodation and the house-owner, producing his identity papers.

Para 6

If the person concerned refuses or fails to report for registration, then the person giving accommodation and the house-owner have to inform the Registration Office accordingly.

Para 7

The Registration Office is the Communal Authority.

Para 9

On request of the Registration Office, the person concerned has to give the necessary informations, to produce the necessary identity papers as well as to report personally on request.

Para 12

A person registered with a community of the inland (according to para 2) and visiting relatives or acquaintances in another community, needs to report for registration only six weeks after his arrival in the community he is visiting.

Para 13

The Higher Administrative Authority can order that  
(a) for single communities or Kreise, the period of six weeks is shortened,  
(b) that for single communities or Kreise the general obligation for registration is shortened up to 24 hours.

Para 15

The owners of undertakings for the purpose of lodging, professionally or for public utility, travellers or foreigners, or for the stay of convalescents (e.g. hotels, inns, boarding-houses, welfare institutions, convalescent homes, hostels, homeless-asylums) are obliged to report the persons lodged, within 24 hours after their arrival, to the Registration Office for registration.

Para 17

If the stay in one of the lodging-houses mentioned in para 15 exceeds one month, then the person lodged is liable, according to the general registration ordinances, to be registered in and out.

Para 25

A person who, with intention or neglect, does not comply with his obligation to report for registration or does not assist in making up such a report in time, or acts contrary to para 9, will be fined

PTO



APPENDIX 'A'

REGISTRATION ORDINANCE  
Issued 1st April, 1942

Para 2.

A person moving into a new lodging has to report for registration to the Registration Office within one week after taking up his new residence. This obligation is independent from a "permit to be stated when registering". The obligation for registration is independent from a "permit to take up residence". Lodgings, in the meaning of this Ordinance, is any accommodation, also for sleeping purposes only.

Para 3.

A person leaving an accommodation has to report for registration with the Registration Office within one week, stating his new accommodation or his whereabouts if he has not yet a new residence.

Para 4.

Liability to report a person for registration, except the person concerned, are  
(a) the owner of the house for all persons living in the house,  
(b) the person giving accommodation for all persons living with him.

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The person concerned complies with his obligation for registration when he personally hands in the Registration Form, in triplicate, filled in and signed by him, the person giving accommodation and the house-owner, producing his identity papers.

Para 6.

If the person concerned refuses or fails to report for registration, then the person giving accommodation and the house-owner have to inform the Registration Office accordingly.

Para 7.

The Registration Office is the Central Authority.

Para 8.

On request of the Registration Office, the person concerned has to give the necessary information, to produce the necessary identity papers as well as to report personally on request.

Para 12.

A person registered with a community of the kind (according to para 2) and visiting relatives or acquaintances in another community needs to report for registration only six weeks after his arrival in the community he is visiting.

Para 13.

The Higher Administrative Authority can order that  
(a) for single communities or Kreise, the period of six weeks is shortened,  
(b) that for single communities or Kreise the general obligation for registration is shortened up to 24 hours.

Para 15.

The owners of undertakings for the purpose of lodging, professional convalescents (e.g. hotels, inns, boarding-houses, welfare institutions, convalescent homes, hostels, homes-asylums) are obliged to report the persons lodged, within 24 hours after their arrival, to the Registration Office for registration.

Para 17.

If the stay in one of the lodging-houses mentioned in para 15 exceeds one month, then the person lodged is liable, according to the general registration ordinances, to be registered in and out.

Para 22.

A person who, with intention or neglect, does not comply with his obligation to report for registration or does not assist in making up such a report in time, or acts contrary to para 9, will be fined



COPY

LAND NIEDERSACHSEN

	No of Germans charged		No of Aliens charged		No of DP's charged		Approx. Percentage of Crime committed by DP's		Remarks
	2nd half 1948	1st half 1949	2nd half 1948	1st half 1949	2nd half 1948	1st half 1949	2nd half 1948	1st half 1949	
Total offences charged	75 861	73 623	1 924	1 753	1 311	1 192	1.7	1.6	
Offences against the person (murder, robbery, sexual, etc.)	4 518	4 673	180	121			3.8	2.5	Bracketed figures are percentages of Aliens convicted. As will be seen from top line, DP's convicted from approx. 66% of Aliens. Aliens convicted consist of Poles, Yugoslavs, Balts, Russians etc. and are presumably former DP's now living outside camps. Although forming so small a proportion of the population, Aliens appear to excel in the use of firearms.
Offences against property (theft, housebreaking etc.)	67 003	65 752	1 090	1 177			1.6	1.75	
Offences against Mil Gov Laws (unlawful possession of firearms, Allied property etc.)	4 340	3 198	654	455			13	12.3	
Cases involving use of firearms	82	28	55	25			40	50	

Maximum DP population (approx.)	(a) 2nd half 1948	83 000
	(b) 1st half 1949	70 000
Maximum Native population (approx.)	(a) 2nd half 1948	6 821 000
	(b) 1st half 1949	6 869 000
Percentage of population formed by DP's	(a) 2nd half 1948	1.25 %
	(b) 1st half 1949	<u>1.00 %</u>

92

List of Criminal and other Activities in Hohne Camp.

Public Safety Raid (Black Market)	February 18th, 1948.
Theft from Roundhouse (DP and Germans)	March 25th, 1948.
	April 7th, 1948.
Attempted Armed Robbery in Hohne Camp	March 4th, 1948.
Stolen bicycles and animals	April 19th, 1948.
Stolen Trucks and Oxen	April 21st, 1948.
Stolen Car	Sept 28th, 1948.
Misconduct British Soldiers	<del>August 10th, 1949.</del>
" " "	<del>September 22nd, 1949.</del>
" " "	<del>September 23rd, 1949.</del>

+ V.D. Raid

7H

207

Office of the GAO/DCOS (Exec),  
Lubbecke,  
BAOR 1

12h.

RIBC/111A5/C

7 November, 1949

**CONFIDENTIAL**

To: Mr. K.W. Mathews, IP Division, Lango  
Mr. J. Zimmerman, Office of Public Safety Adviser,  
Bunde  
Mr. A.H. Rugg, Intelligence Division, Harford  
Mr. A.E.E. Reade, Zonal Office of the Legal Adviser,  
(Prosecutions Section) Harford

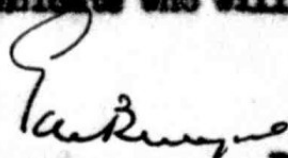
**SUBJECT: Crime in IP Camps**

1. Attached is the record of the Meeting held at Hannover on 7 October, 1949, in continuation of the inquiry into criminal activities within IP Camps. You will have already received the record of the previous meeting held at Lubbecke on 15 September.

2. You are requested to attend a further meeting at the Tax House, Lubbecke at 1430 hours 16 November, 1949, when the Committee will record its considered opinion on the points mentioned in para 4 (a) to (d) of this office letter of even number dated 1 September, 1949.

It is further requested to draft the Committee's recommendation as to what further measures, if any, are now required to reduce the incidence of criminal activities in IP Camps, so that the report can be finalised for submission to the Political Division (IP Branch).

3. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and, if unable to attend the meeting in person, indicate who will attend in your absence.

  
Brigadier,  
Assistant Chief of Staff (Executive) A



**KIDG/11145/C**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

7 November, 1949

To: Mr. K.W. Mathews, HP Division, Lounge  
Mr. J. Timmerman, Office of Public Safety Adviser,  
Bunde  
Mr. A.H. Rugg, Intelligence Division, Hartford  
Mr. A.E.E. Reade, Special Office of the Legal Adviser,  
(Prosecutions Section) Hartford

**SUBJECT: Crime in DP Camps**

1. Attached is the record of the Meeting held at Hannover on 7 October, 1949, in continuation of the inquiry into criminal activities within DP Camps. You will have already received the record of the previous meeting held at Lubbock on 15 September.

2. You are requested to attend a further meeting at the Tax House, Ladbroke at 1430 hours 16 November, 1949, when the Committee will record its considered opinion on the points mentioned in para. 4 (a) to (d) of this office letter of even number dated 1 September, 1949.

It is further proposed to draft the Committee's recommendation as to what further measures, if any, are now required to reduce the incidence of criminal activities in DP Camps, so that the report can be finalized for submission to the Political Division (DP Branch).

3. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and, if unable to attend the meeting in person, indicate who will attend in your absence.

*Anthony* Brigadier,  
Assistant Chief of Staff (Executive) A

CONFIDENTIAL

Tel: LEMGO 606

Ref: DPD/0230/Sec.

Displaced Persons Division,  
LEMGO,  
B.A.O.R. 15.

9 November, 1949.

To: Office of the CAO/DCOS (Exec)  
Section 'G'  
LUBBECKE,  
B.A.O.R. 1.

SUBJECT: Crime in DP Camps

Receipt of your letter Exec/11145/G dated 7 November, 1949  
is acknowledged.

It is regretted that owing to a prior engagement  
Mr. K.W. Matthews will be unable to attend the meeting at Tax  
House on 16 November, 1949. In his absence therefore,  
Mr. C.A.B. McVittie has been nominated to attend the meeting.

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No.: 11145	Section: G
Date Rec'd: 11 NOV 1949	
Location of File: S 7/11	Date: 11/11
Seen by: JBE	Action at: 11/11

*C.A.B. McVittie*

C. A. B. McVITTIE.  
for Chief, Displaced Persons Division.

ATB/NF

RESTRICTED

15A.

FROM: Mr A.H. RUGG  
REF: INT DIV/S/AHR/18430/1/1  
TEL: HERFORD 2221

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
HERFORD  
BAOR 15

11 Nov 49

TO: Major W.G.M. SPENS (Retd),  
Office of the CAO/DCOS(Exec).  
LUBBECKE,  
B.A.O.R. 1.  
-----

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No: 011145	Section: 9
Date Rec'd: 8/11	14 NOV 1949
Location of File:	
Seen by: 265	Date: 15/11
Action at:	

Dear Mike

To-day Brigadier BORRADAILE spoke to Colonel FULVERMAN on the telephone on the subject of Crime in DP Camps. It was agreed that unless the turn of events makes it necessary, Intelligence Division will not be represented at the meeting to be held on 16 Nov.

Yours

Harry

265/11.



NOTES ON THE MEETING HELD IN HANNOVER ON 7TH OCTOBER, 1949  
TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES BASED ON DP CAMPS

There were present:-

Brigadier G. de Bruyne	-	ACOS (Exec) A (Chairman)
Mr. B.I. James	-	R.G.O., Land Niedersachsen
Col. T.A. Dillon (Rtd), OBE	-	Assistant Commissioner, Brunswick.
Mr. H.M.F. Piper	-	Assistant Commissioner, Lüneburg
Maj. Gen. B. Wilson (Rtd) CB, DSO	-	Comd. 206 'R' Det. Celle
Mr. A.E. Reade	-	Legal Division
Mr. C.A.B. McVittie, MBE	-	DP Division
Miss F.E. Charles	-	45 DPACS, Hohn
Mr. W.E. Prior	-	223 'R' Det. Goslar
Mr. H. Briggs	-	98 DPACS Luchtenberg (223)
Mr. W.F. Hubbard	-	127 DPACS Oerrel
Mr. J. Timmerman	-	Public Safety Adviser's Office
Mr. P. Kitchingham	-	SPSO Brunswick
Mr. J.P. Railton	-	SPSO Lüneburg
Major W.G.M. Spens (Rtd)	-	Executive Staff
Miss M.B. Elmes	-	Executive Staff

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by explaining that following a newspaper allegation that a disproportionate percentage of criminal activity could be traced to DP camps, the Chief of Staff had called for a report on the position.

He added that he had already had preliminary discussions on the subject with DP Division and the Office of the Public Safety Adviser and was now anxious to obtain the opinion of authorities on the ground. He accordingly welcomed their attendance at this meeting.

2. He then reviewed the particulars he had already obtained, at the previous meeting and called for further comments. In the ensuing discussion, which he said confirmed many of his earlier impressions, the following points were made:-

(a) DP Division stated that although IRO were considering the possibility of making a DP forfeit his IRO protection following any conviction for criminal activity, it was unlikely that they would agree to do so. This might need further examination.

(b) It was generally agreed that:-

(i) The statistics provided by Public Safety to show the ratio of criminal activity as between DPs and Germans were of considerable interest but that conclusions should only be drawn with reserve in view of the tendency to apply the term 'DP' indiscriminately; the fact that arrests and not convictions were recorded, and the danger of drawing comparison between the small number of genuine DPs with the entire German population. ✓

(ii) DPs are not a criminal class. The average DP, particularly any Balt, is a law-abiding citizen, though the circumstances of camp life tend to lower all standards. Furthermore a very small element of ruthless or lawless persons in a camp, may easily terrorise or intimidate the majority and so compel silence and

/unwilling

unwilling co-operation.

- (iii) The present nomadic existence of DPs enabled them easily to drift into crime. Their present identity papers were far more easily forged than the German identity card. It was therefore for consideration whether DPs should not be registered on the German system and their offences dealt with under German Law. These measures would in any case be introduced when the Germans took over responsibility.
- (iv) The DP problem will not, however, automatically settle itself when the DPs are transferred to the German economy. It may even be that a certain percentage of DPs, now law-abiding, will find that with the withdrawal of IRO facilities, the competition on the German economy will be too much for them and so tempt them to turn to crime.
- (v) Whilst we shall retain a responsibility to DPs on their transfer to the German economy, to discourage any discrimination against them, the sooner a DP is treated to the greatest degree possible on a par with the German community, the better. DPs should thus learn their rights and responsibilities as members of the ordinary community and not regard themselves as a privileged or separate class.
- (vi) Magistrates tended to give either too lenient or too nominal punishments in the case of convictions against DPs, especially where fire-arms were carried. Such clemency could not act as a deterrent. It was suggested that this tendency should be recorded.
- (vii) The personality of the Camp leader had a very great bearing, both on camp morale and discipline and the relationship with the Police. Without a good camp leader there is little control in a camp.

3. Considerable controversy then arose over the proposal that greater powers of search should be given to the German Police and whether this would be politically acceptable.

It was agreed that:-

- (a) Camp raids were not now desirable or effective, especially as it was known that camp inmates generally managed to obtain prior information of any proposed raids.
- (b) Without the co-operation of the camp staff and inmates, Police Posts within the camp could achieve nothing.
- (c) The most effective form of camp supervision to prevent them becoming hideouts of criminals was for them to be

/on

on the ordinary Police beat and patrol. It was anticipated that in certain camps this might initially lead to trouble but that the advantages to be obtained would make it worth-while. If this principle was politically acceptable, the policing of each camp would have to be considered on its merits.

(d) Camps in and near towns usually give the most trouble.

4. The representative from Hohne camp was unable to agree that Hohne merited a bad reputation. She maintained that it had a very clean record as regards violent crime and that black market activities were encouraged by outside German sponsorship. As it was in any case indulged in by all sections of the population, it should not be regarded as a specialised 'DP crime', for which DPs had to bear full responsibility.



16<sup>A</sup>



Telephone Bünde 2115  
Your Reference.....  
Our Reference 62/PS/CW/1

Office of the Public Safety Adviser,  
Zonal Executive Offices,  
C.C.G. Bünde,  
62 H.Q. C.C.G. (B.E.),  
B.A.O.R. I.

12th November 1949

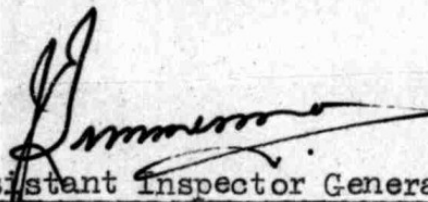
Office of the CAO/DCOS (Exec),  
LUBBECKE, BAOR. 1

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No.: <u>011145</u>	Section: <u>9</u>
Date Rec'd: <u>15 NOV 1949</u>	
Location of File:	
Seen by: <u>AB</u>	Date: <u>15/11</u>
Action at:	

Crime in D.P. Camps

Receipt is acknowledged of Exec/11145/G. dated 7th November, 1949.

I shall be attending the meeting on the 16th November in person.

  
Assistant Inspector General

JT/DM

Tel.: 2296

17A  
Prosecutions Section  
Control Commission High Court  
Bielefeld BAOR 15

Ref No. PSB/R./ST.

11 November 1949

To:- Assistant Chief of Staff (Executive) A  
Office of the CAO/DCOS (Exec.)  
L U E B B E C K E BAOR 1

Subject: Crime in DP Camps

1. Your EXEC/11145/G of 7 Nov. is acknowledged as requested.

2. In reply to your para. 3, Enquiring who will be attending the next meeting at Tax House, LUEBBECKE, at 14.30 hours on 16 November, 1949, this is to inform you that, having attended the previous meetings, I have been directed to attend this one, but as I have been transferred from the Zonal Office of the Legal Adviser to the Bielefeld Circuit I should be obliged if you would please note my change of address and telephone number in case you have to notify any alteration in time or place of meeting.

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY  
File No.: 011145 Sections: 9  
Date Rec'd: 14 NOV 1949  
Location of File:  
Seen by: 265  
Action at: 174

*A.E.E. Reade*

( A.E.E. Reade )  
Senior Prosecutor  
Bielefeld Circuit

Copy to:- Director of Prosecutions  
Zonal Office of the Legal Adviser,  
CCG (BE) HERFORD BAOR 15

(Minute of last meeting enclosed herewith to attach to file for D.L.A. to see)

**DAILY TELEGRAPH**

Cutting dated *10<sup>th</sup> Aug.* 194*9*

**GANG FORTUNES  
IN GERMANY**

PSS(HC)

**REFUGEE CAMPS AS  
H.Q.**

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT  
BERLIN, Tuesday.

The German and Allied authorities in Western Germany are gravely disturbed by the operation of criminal gangs from displaced persons' centres. They have carried out murders, robberies and black market and currency transactions on a large scale.

The German Customs police in the British zone stated to-day that 15 displaced persons in the Bergen-Belsen camp are now "mark millionaires" as the result of black market operations.

In Bremen, property described as personal baggage and consigned to Israel was found to consist of high-grade machine tools and other industrial goods, valued at £225,000. According to the police, large quantities of Westmark notes have been smuggled abroad by an organisation working from Bergen-Belsen.

Investigations have shown that the murderers of Sir John Sheehy, Deputy Financial Adviser to Gen. Robertson, the British Military Governor, were probably displaced persons. Sir John was shot dead in his British zone home last May. The killers have not yet been found.

Early yesterday morning, a German policeman who surprised two men breaking into a jeweller's shop at Buende was shot and wounded by one of the men. He returned the fire and wounded his assailant, a Ukrainian displaced person.

The German authorities in Westphalia report that damage done to nine villages, which, from 1945 until a few weeks ago, housed displaced Poles, totals £1,125,000. The State has placed a first instalment of £52,500 at the disposal of the returned inhabitants.

Press Branch  
Information Services

16. NOV. 1949

HERFORD



1/20

Ref: 357

Ref: 11045/2

CONFIDENTIAL

19A  
"G" Section,  
Office of the Chief of Staff  
Lubbock, 1.  
BAIR, 1.

3 December, 1949

23A  
To: ✓ DP Division, Large  
✓ Office of the Public Safety Adviser, Dunde  
✓ Legal Office of the Legal Adviser, Harford  
✓ Intelligence Division, Harford

SUBJECT: Crimes in DP Camps in the British Zone

22A  
X - verbal agreement  
+ amendment  
as shown in  
Introduction

Attached hereto for your information and any comments is a copy of the Paper drafted following the Meeting held by the Working Party in Lubbock on the 16th November.

It is then proposed to submit this Paper to the Deputy High Commissioner.

If I do not receive comments by 12th December I will conclude that you agree the paper as it stands.

Robullesman  
Colonel  
Assistant Chief of Staff 'A'

Int. Div. phoned to say they will have some comments which will arrive on Monday 12th

KPC 10/12

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN IF CAMPS IN THE BRITISH ZONE

INTRODUCTION

1. Following an allegation in the Daily Telegraph of 10/8/49 that IF camps in the British Zone were centres of criminal activity, the late Chief of Staff instructed the GAO/DOCS (Ruse) to set up a Working Party consisting of representatives of Public Safety Branch, IF, Legal and Intelligence Divisions, to consider the problem and make recommendations.
2. The Working Party based their study on the following facts or assumptions:-
  - (a) IFs are generally subject to the provisions of the German Penal Code, although not to the jurisdiction of the German Criminal Courts, and as United Nations nationals may only be tried before COMUSON. *With the coming into force of Allied High Commission Law No 13 of 1 Jan 50 IFs, unless in general, will be transferred to the German Economy by 30th June, 1950.*
  - (b) With certain exceptions, IFs will be transferred to the German Economy by 30th June, 1950.
  - (c) IFs are a Reserved Subject under the Occupation Statute; and the High Commission will still be responsible for seeing that they do not suffer discriminating treatment after their transfer to the German economy. There is no intention, however, of allowing IFs to regard themselves in any way as a separate or privileged class.
3. In the course of their discussions the Working Party consulted local British Authorities on the ground including Assistant Commissioners, Public Safety Officers, Relief Detachment and DPACOS Commanders.
4. The Working Party dealt with the matter by posing questions covering the various aspects of the problem and attempting to find the answers, and the report is therefore rendered in this form.

DISCUSSION

5. The Extent to which Criminal Activities can be traced to IF Camps

Police statistics on crime show that on a ratio basis the percentage of crimes by IFs (covering those living both inside and out of camps) exceeds that of the indigenous population. No firm figure is available of the total number of IFs, but it is reliably estimated that as at September 1949 there was an approximate total of 125,000, of whom 91,000 live in camps and 10,000 in the GNR/GML and 24,000 in the German Economy as against a German population of 24,000,000.

A schedule showing the average monthly number of arrests of alleged IFs and Germans over the past year is attached at Appendix 'A'. It will be seen that the crimes are divided to show thefts, robbery, murder and offences involving the use of firearms, and that the total percentage number of arrests made in the case of IFs is twice that of Germans. The greatest disparity occurs in crimes with firearms. The more serious the crime the greater is the disparity in the percentages.

Such statistics may be misleading to a certain degree in that other non-Germans may possibly be recorded as IFs, and because owing to the very great disparity between the total numbers of IFs and Germans percentages do not necessarily make an equitable comparison. Moreover, although the statistics cannot be broken down as between IFs living in and outside IF Camps, it appears from all information available to be a fair assumption that the incidence of crime is less among those living outside the IF Camps, owing to the fact that they are either living under conditions more nearly approximating to those of the average members of the German community or, alternatively, as members of GNR/GML, are under military discipline.

/Although

insert  
Substitute  
Sentence  
as at 23a  
"a/b"

Although the figures quoted in the Appendix may not provide an accurate comparison, they do, however, show that a serious problem exists.

There is little doubt that this greater incidence of crime among the DPs may be traced to the fact that these unhappy people, having been torn away from their homes and countries and subjected to hardship and ill-treatment over a number of years, have now psychologically come to believe that the German is "far gone". Camp life does little to instil any feeling of civic responsibility, and, to alleviate the hard conditions and poor rates of pay, many DPs have resorted to the Black Market (the first step in a criminal career), which in the past has offered a profitable source of income to DPs and Germans alike. Further, the "safe haven" of a DP Camp may act as an encouragement to the weaker characters to drift into crime.

6. Whether such Activities are Increasing or Declining and the Circumstances Leading to any such Increase or Decline

Statistics indicate that all types of crime show a steady fall over the past three years, but that the proportional decrease is least in the case of violent crimes, which may possibly be attributed to an element of hardened, habitual and desperate criminals. The improvement, however, is due to a number of factors:-

- (i) Improvement of the conditions of the German economy with consequent curtailment of business on the Black Market and reduced temptation to resort to theft as a means of income.
- (ii) Re-education and re-establishment by IRO of DPs willing to accept this help.
- (iii) The election as Camp Leaders, of suitable DPs, who will co-operate with the Police in the detection of crime, and whose personality goes a long way to ensuring a happy and ordered camp.
- (iv) The location of German Police Posts in some camps.
- (v) The award of long sentences to convicted criminals, which not only prevents them from committing further crimes, but acts as a deterrent to others.
- (vi) The general reduction in the number of DPs down to more manageable proportions.
- (vii) The detection and prevention of certain "rackets", e.g. disposal on the Black Market of gift parcels and "comforts".

Conversely, it is realized, however, that with the general improvement on the German economy, some DPs may have forsaken the declining profits of petty theft for more serious crimes; while the habitual criminals, knowing that they are unacceptable for resettlement, and must remain in Germany, are prepared to go to greater lengths to attain their ends.

7. The Extent to which Criminal Activities are confined to Certain Groups or Camps

It is not possible to break down the statistics by nationality. Whilst, however, it would be generally dangerous to impute responsibility to any particular group or camp or to judge any particular group by the behaviour of a minority, the impression has been gained that on the whole the Baltic group, possibly because they are both better educated and less embittered against the Germans, are a well behaved community, whereas, on the other hand, there are undoubtedly a number of hardened criminals among the Poles, the most numerous group.

The Jewish camp at Hohne, half of whose inmates are illegal entrants and

/not

Black  
market  
Kauzack



not DPs, is known to be the centre of large scale black market activities. It would be entirely wrong to regard DPs generally as a Criminal Class.

8. To what Extent Action is being taken to reduce such Activities and to what Extent it is Effective

- (i) There is a continuous programme of re-education and rehabilitation of D.P.s. in camps which should show progressive results.
- (ii) Increased authority has been given to the German Police in their dealings with D.P.s., and in particular the power to enter camps and to establish German Police posts in camps. They are, however, still handicapped by the delay resulting from the necessity for the observance of certain procedures before exercising these powers in camps. *particular in respect of search of camps.*
- (iii) Raids on camps to discover criminals and black market activities are carried out but are not normally very successful, and tend rather to antagonise the majority of the law abiding DPs. Further, without the co-operation of the camp-staff they are very unlikely to attain their object. *DP personnel in camp staff*
- (iv) There is growing propaganda to the effect that DPs with a criminal record will prejudice their chances of resettlement.
- (v) There is a system of breaking up and dispersing the bad elements from any one camp. This is, however, only partially successful, owing to the practical impossibility of keeping an accurate check on the day to day movements of individual DPs or of restricting their movement.
- (vi) I.R.O. have recently begun to exercise the powers given by their charter, in connection with "exploitation of the assistance of the organisation", by making DPs forfeit their I.R.O. status after conviction for serious crimes. It is, however, of such recent application that it is not yet possible to assess its value.

9. What Further Measures to Reduce such Activities could be considered and to what Extent they could be applied

- (i) The inclusion of DP Camps within the ordinary patrols of the German Police, and the abolition of the present hindrances in the procedure for allowing them to enter camps.

It is realised that political considerations may limit such a proposal.

- (ii) The immediate registration by the German Registration Offices of all DPs and of every move from one camp to another. This would enable the German Police to keep an accurate check on suspected individuals and would considerably assist in the detection of crime. It is realised that such registration would require careful planning to avoid abuse in the use of the Registration Card. Further, this course might enable certain less desirable interested parties to obtain detailed knowledge of the location of individuals. *there might have to be some exceptions.*
- (iii) Intensified propaganda to the DPs in their camps warning them that criminal records will prejudice their chances of resettlement and may lead to the forfeiture of their DP status, and that they are subject to the German Penal Code and the full authority of the German Police.
- (iv) The continuous survey made by DP Division to encourage an improvement in the calibre of camp leaders to be intensified.

- RECOMMENDATIONS**
- (i) It is recommended that apart from those measures discussed at paragraph 9 above, pending the transfer of IFE to the German economy next June, it would be unwise at this stage to make any fundamental changes. Such changes might antagonize one or both sides and consequently make the absorption into the German economy more difficult.
  - (ii) The new measures would be most effective if aimed <sup>at</sup> preparing the IFE to accept his duties and status as an ordinary resident in Germany. In addition, facilities for the prosecution and detection of crimes should be increased wherever possible.
  - (iii) General publicity regarding measures taken to combat crime should not be undertaken as it would draw German attention to the problem and this again might prejudice the IFE reception into the German economy.

1. Extent to which Criminal activities can be traced to DP Camps:

- (a) Crime statistics show that on a percentage basis DP crime exceeds that of the indigenous population.
- (b) Statistics are apt to be misleading in that
- (i) ~~Statistics show all DP's whether living in Camps or not.~~
  - (ii) Non Germans are ~~often~~ <sup>sometimes</sup> erroneously referred to as D.Ps.
  - (iii) Owing to the very small numbers of D.Ps. in comparison with the German population, percentages do not necessarily show an equitable comparison. (Approximately 200,000 to 22½ million). 125,000 Germans  
91,000 are in Camps.
  - (iii) ~~Statistics show arrests and not convictions.~~
- (c) Crimes can be divided into
- (i) Thefts
  - (ii) Robbery
  - (iii) Murder.
- monthly
- A schedule showing average numbers of arrests of alleged D.Ps. and Germans over the last year is attached at Appendix 'A'. <sup>This</sup>
- (d) Statistics show that Crimes of Violence are very high compared to the German population. Petty crimes and thefts are high.
- (e) The following are some of the reasons for D.P. crime.
- (i) The Camp life, hard conditions and poor pay are conducive to D.Ps. seeking illegal means, if legal means are not possible, to ameliorate these conditions. <sup>Camp life in itself leads to crime D.P. the abuse of Civil responsibility.</sup>
  - (ii) The Black Market used to be a profitable source of income both for Germans and D.Ps.
  - (iii) The present nomadic existence of D.Ps. leads them to drift into crime.
  - (iv) These unhappy people have been torn away from their homes & countries & have suffered great hardships <sup>ill-treatment</sup> over a period of years.
  - (v) These bad conditions have undoubtedly led to psychological feeling that they were justified the Germans were "fair game".

Altho. stats can't be broken down to Camps & outside, it is a fair assumption that the ~~percentage of crimes~~ incidence of crime is less among those outside Camps <sup>due to the fact</sup> that D.Ps. live under conditions <sup>that</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>are</sup> approx. ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> of normal Germans & a proportion (Criminals etc) are under ~~the same~~ <sup>the same</sup> conditions.



2. Whether such activities are increasing or declining and the circumstances leading to any such increase or decrease.

Statistics show that all types except ~~Violent Crimes~~ committed by D.Ps. show a steady fall. ~~The high rate of Violent Crimes~~ may be attributed to a hard core of habitual and desperate criminals.

The general improvement may be attributed to

- (a) Improvement of conditions in German economy with consequent curtailment of business on the Black Market. ~~a decrease in reduced temptation to resort to theft.~~
- (b) Re-education and re-establishment by I.R.O. of D.Ps. willing to receive this help.
- (c) Location of German Police in some D.P. Camps. ~~where~~ <sup>co-operation of the inmates with the German Police</sup>
- (d) The action of the majority of D.Ps. in denouncing the perpetrators of major crimes.
- (e) The fact that large numbers of D.Ps. have left Germany for resettlement and the knowledge that a bad record may bar individuals from resettlement.
- (f) The ~~selection~~ <sup>selection</sup> of suitable D.Ps. as Camp Leaders whose personality ensures a happy and ordered Camp and who co-operate with the police in the detection of crime.
- (g) The detection and prevention of certain rackets e.g. reception of Gift parcels for disposal on Black Market and the sale by alleged Voluntary Societies of large stocks of "comforts".

Conversely there is no doubt that the improvements mentioned above have led some ~~weaker~~ D.Ps. from petty to more serious crimes. Again, the habitual criminal being unacceptable for resettlement remains in the Zone & continues his career of serious crime.

- (e). The apprehension & trial of several D.P. who had committed serious crimes & the ~~high~~ award of exemplary punishment. It must be noted that D.Ps. awarded long terms of imprisonment are ~~not~~ <sup>are</sup> incapable of further criminal activities for the period of their sentence.
- (f) The award of long sentences to convicted D.P. criminals which not only prevents them from committing further crimes but acts as a deterrent to others.
- (f) The general reduction in the no. of D.P. down to more manageable proportions.

3. The extent to which criminal activities are confined to certain Groups or Camps.

(a) It would be generally dangerous to impute responsibility for crime on any particular Group or Camps.

(b) Camps in and near towns usually have a high incidence of crime <sup>greater</sup> owing to contacts with undesirable Germans and opportunities for the commitment of all kinds of offences.

(c) ~~Statistics cannot be broken down by nationalities but the general impression is~~  
The Baltic Group being on the whole more educated, are less prone to crime whereas there is undoubtedly a number of hardened criminals amongst the Poles, the most numerous category of D.Ps.

~~It would however be dangerous to judge a community~~  
The Jewish Camp at Hohne, half the number of inmates of which are illegal entrants and not D.Ps. has been a centre of Black Market activities on a large scale.

(d) ~~The WFA conclude~~ no particular group can be judged by the behaviour of a criminal minority.

9 less embittered against the Germans.

What action to reduce such criminal activities is being taken and the extent to which it is effective

- (c) ~~Propaganda to the effect that DPs who commit crimes will prejudice their chances of resettlement.~~ *showing progressive results*
- (d) ~~The threat that criminals are liable to be turned out of camp.~~
- (e) ~~The removal and dispersion from camp of any bad elements.~~ *The packing breaking up to camp*

(e) The removal and dispersion from camp of any bad elements. The ~~removal~~ <sup>partial</sup> ~~the decision~~ <sup>partially successful</sup> ~~the practical impossibility~~ <sup>of keeping an accurate check on</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>certified by certain procedures necessary</sup> ~~here they can exercise their authority in~~ <sup>camp</sup> ~~of restricting the movement of free people~~.



5. General Remarks on DPs

- (a) DPs are a reserved subject under the Occupation Statute.
- (b) ~~DPs are subject to German law.~~ *the German Penal Law but*
- (c) ~~DPs can be tried for civil cases in German Courts with Legal Adviser's approval.~~ *UN Nationals can only be tried before CCG Courts.*
- (d) ~~DPs cannot be tried in German Courts for criminal offences.~~
- (e) DPs are NOT a criminal class. The average DP is a law-abiding citizen though the circumstances of camp life tend to lower his standards. A small element of ruthless and lawless persons in a camp may easily terrorise or intimidate the majority and so compel unwilling co-operation with the authorities.
- (f) ~~DPs will be transferred to the German economy probably in June 1950. However thereafter CCG will still be responsible for their protection against discrimination. DPs will not however be entitled to regard themselves as a separate or privileged class.~~ *remains in Germany except those in the process of transfer*

*fundamental changes* (g) ~~In view of the impending transfer of DPs to the German economy it would be unwise at this stage to make drastic reforms in camp life.~~ *more changes than are essential*

- (h) Any general publicity regarding measures taken to combat DP crime would draw the Germans' attention to the problem and it might prejudice the DPs reception into the German economy.

*in Germany* (i) New measures would be most effective if confined to preparing DPs to accept their proper duties and status as ordinary ~~members of the German economy.~~ *residents* In addition measures to deal with hardened criminals should be improved. *facilities for the prosecution & detection of crime of DPs should be improved.*

*or habitual*

6. What further measures to reduce criminal activities should be considered and to what extent can they be applied.

- (a) Further and more extensive rehabilitation courses for remaining D.Ps. ~~I.R.O. could be requested to implement this decision.~~ *serious life crime*
- (b) Forfeiture of I.R.O. status after conviction for a felony. This is considered possible under the I.R.O. Constitution as "exploiting the assistance of the organization" Efforts to obtain expulsion from Camps under this procedure have not however met with success. ~~I.R.O. might be again requested to help us by this means.~~ *has now commenced to be applied. This still too early, do*
- access to value* (c) Camp raids to discover either criminals or Black Market 'rackets'. Raids are not now normally very successful but tend to antagonise the majority of law abiding D.Ps. Further without co-operation of the Camp staff they do not attain their object.
- (d) Inclusion of D.P. Camps in the ordinary patrol of German Police. ~~as above~~ In certain Camps such activities might initially cause resentment and in some cases lead to trouble, but it is thought this would be the most effective method of preventing Camps from becoming the hide out for criminals. *any crime for which a sentence*
- effective than the present system of* (e) The automatic removal of a D.P. convicted of a felony from his original Camp to another after he has served his sentence. Further, if a resettled D.P. has been deported back to Germany, he should not be returned to his original Camp. The Working Party see no objection to the implementation of this suggestion. *any crime for which a sentence*
- (f) The imposition of heavier sentences by OCG Courts on D.Ps. committing felonies. To date sentences are reported to be too lenient. *any crime for which a sentence*
- (g) The registration by the German Registration Office of all D.Ps. and of every move of a D.P. from one Camp to another. *immediate*
- This would enable the German Police to keep an accurate check on suspected individuals and would considerably assist crime detection. ~~However, at present it is considered that for security and possibly political reasons such a course is unacceptable.~~
- (h) Any known Camps with a bad reputation to be dispersed. This has been done in the past and is being done shortly in the case of Hohne. A continuous survey of Camps should be undertaken. *on the calibre of Camp leaders encouraged*
- (i) In due course German laws should apply to D.Ps. without exception.

*hinderances*  
+ the abolition of present restrictions on the procedure for police on entering Camps

The automatic removal of any criminal DP not struck off by IAO

BRIEF

ACOS (A)

CRIME IN DP CAMPS

In connection with a newspaper allegation that DP Camps are centres of criminal activity, Major-General Maclean, when Chief of Staff, instructed CAO/DCOS (Exec) to set up a Working Party to examine the problem and make certain recommendations (FLAG 'A')

2. The enquiries of the Working Party have been directed along the following lines:-

- (i) to ascertain
  - (a) the extent to which criminal activities can be traced to DP Camps;
  - (b) whether such activities are increasing or declining and the circumstances leading to any such increase or decrease;
  - (c) to what extent criminal activities are confined to certain specific groups or Camps;
  - (d) what action to reduce such criminal activities is being taken and the extent to which it is effective;
  - (e) what further measures to reduce criminal activities should be considered and to what extent they can be applied.

The minutes of the first meeting of the W.P. (which discussed (a) to (d)) are at FLAG 'B'.

- (ii) At the second meeting the W.P. heard the views of the various authorities on the ground. (Minutes at FLAG 'C').

3. At FLAG 'D' you will see that Brigadier de Bruyne has called a further meeting to record its considered opinion on the above points (a) to (e) for submission to Political Division.

You may wish to note in this connection that a Staff Study on the subject of combatting Crime in Displaced Persons Camps was submitted by the Public Safety Adviser to Political Division in May this year, arising out of which a letter was sent to the Minister. It is understood that no specific reply has been received.

4. You may possibly consider that in general terms

- (i) criminal activity has become such a well-established mode of living among a certain percentage of the DP Camp population, although possibly over-emphasised, that at this late stage it is not worth while attempting any additional reform measures as far as camp life as such is concerned;
- (ii) and that the publicity accompanying any such attempt would unduly prejudice the reception of DPs generally on their transfer to the German economy.
- (iii) further, any new measures in respect of the DP's mode of living would be most effective if confined to preparing them to accept their proper duties and privileges as ordinary members of the German community.

/iv)

Conclusion (c)



- (iv) that such measures might include both inducements to DPs to undertake rehabilitation courses to qualify for skilled jobs which would ensure an honest living, and also put machinery into operation to treat them forthwith on a par with Germans by such measures as including DP Camps in the normal Police beat and patrol and registering DPs for identity purposes under the German system.

Under the specific headings at para 2(i) on which you may wish to obtain finalised opinions, the following points have already been made:-

- (a) It was generally agreed that there was a higher proportion of criminal activity including violent crime among DP's than among the German population; ~~as a whole~~ that with the possible exception of Hohne Camp, there was no large organised bad element among DP's; certain camps were responsible for a wide system of black market contacts and documentary and currency forgery. That the black-market activity of camps was largely kept alive by the German population ~~spinning~~.
- (b) It was agreed generally that the crime rate had come down although it still constituted a problem due possibly to a "hard core" of desperate or hardened criminals. Reasons for the improvement appear to include the fact that the improved state of the German Economy has led to a reduction of profit in criminal activity; the tightening up of regulations on gift parcels; good conduct records being necessary for emigration.
- (c) Hohne Camp was notorious for money-making crimes and for document and currency forgery and international smuggling.
- (d) The greater powers of the Police, the use of Police Posts with the co-operation of the Camp inmates were all proving effective. Certain petty thefts against Germans were not, however, regarded as "crimes" by the average DP.
- (e) (i) forfeiture of IRO status after conviction. (At the last meeting, however, doubt was expressed whether IRO would agree such measures as would make this effective). ~~Transferring from original Camp.~~
- (ii) placing camps on normal police beat and in the vicinity of police stations. (This may, however, be offset by the fact that it has been noted that camps in and near towns usually give the most trouble.)
- (iii) imposition of more severe sentences than the present nominal ones frequently imposed by Magistrates for criminal prosecutions, including those against the use of firearms.
- (iv) the registration of DPs on the German system, thus cutting down their present nomadic life, which offers such opportunities for criminal activities.

- (v) Really bad Camps to be moved eg Hohne

*Indeciding Fe/  
Take into account para*

*2/3/50*

*15/11*



21A

From: Mr. J. Timmerman

Telephone Bünde 2115

Your Reference.....

Our Reference 62/PS/CW/1

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISER'S OFFICE  
BÜNDE  
B.A.O.R. I

3rd December 1949

Crime in D.P. Camps in the British Zone

*Dear Col Pulverman:*

Reference telephone conversation of the 2nd  
December.

Attached as possible interest is copy of report  
submitted by the Chief of Police, S.K. Hannover, on the  
above mentioned subject.

*ad*

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No.: <i>11145</i>	Section:
Date Rec'd:	
6 DEC 1949	
Location of File:	
Sent by:	Date:
Action at:	

*GJ*

*Yours sincerely*  
*J. Timmerman*

Col. R.O. Pulverman, O.B.E.

JT/DM

Chef der Polizei  
Hannover - Stadt  
P.I. - 6555/49

Hannover, Sept. 28 1949

Subject: D.P. Camps and Police

In the interest of public security and maintenance of law and order, it is necessary that the existing provisions regulating activities of the German Police in D.P. camps are reconsidered. The conditions in the town area of Hannover, especially in the environments of the D.P. camps show the urgent necessity to simplify Police activities in the D.P. camps. Under instructions issued by Military Government in 1947 the German Police, when entering a camp in course of their official duty, must first report to the Camp Commander and, in case of his absence, to his Deputy or the Chief of the Camp Police who have to assist as far as possible the German Police in carrying out their duties. Generally, the German Police should, before entering a camp, inform the nearest Public Safety Officer of their intention of doing so, but in cases of urgency, the Public Safety Officer should be informed during operations or as soon as these have been completed. In case of a detailed search of a camp, this action must be brought to the notice of the P.S.O. supervising the Police concerned prior to the action being carried out, so that this Officer can ensure that military units are at hand.

Such procedure is very unfavourable in view of combat of crime.

Every D.P. has, in consequence of these regulations, the feeling that he - compared to the rest of population - is enjoying special rights. It is only thus to be understood that criminal elements to be found in these circles, commit grave and gravest crimes with an unscrupulousness which is terrifying. When stating this, it is not intended to say that all D.P.s. are criminal elements. But there is no doubt that, in consequence of these privileges resulting from the complicated operational possibilities, many criminal elements seek, and also find, a hiding place in these D.P. camps.

The development in Germany should now have gone so far that it does not appear reasonable to grant any privileges to the so-called Displaced Persons. It is generally known that the camp inmates to the greatest part were voluntary labour of the Nazi regime and partly immigrated only after 1945. Following from these considerations, the necessity results to cancel the instructions issued in 1947 by Military Government by which operations of the German Police in D.P. camps are regulated, and to issue provisions, for the D.P.s. placing them on the same level as the German population. This would mean that a necessary Police action need not be made subject to any prior report to the Camp Commander any longer, or to the assent of the P.S.O. but that only the requirements of criminal procedure act and or Police Administrative Law respectively be observed.

The presupposition for this reformation of the legal conditions is the transfer of the D.P. camps under German responsibility. Functionary authority for D.P. affairs would, in future, have to be the Ministry for Refugees.

On the 21st September 1949, the deficient security of the German population in the neighbourhood of D.P. camps formed the subject of lively discussions in the town Parliament. Since, during the discussions, attention was drawn to the insufficient strength of the Hannover City Police, I take the liberty to enclose an extract in German translation from the Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 21st September 1949 for your information.

The discussion in the Town Council mentioned afore, confirms the view of the Police Committee of this city with regard to the strength of Hannover City Police Forces. Further explanations can be desisted from, since the opinion held by this authority has been repeatedly expressed, lastly in the report submitted to you under date of 29 August 1949.

(Sgd) Brunke



Extracts from the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st September 1949

Serial No. 11 of the Agenda.

Motion of Ratsherr BARGE for strengthening the Police Force at Vahrenwald.

Ratsherr BARGE (SPD) reported that the citizens living in the neighbourhood of the ex-Wehrmacht barracks Mockernstrasse, Nachrichtenkasernenring, Linsingenstrasse und Vahrenwalder strasse complain on increasing, harassing by displaced persons and urgently request additional Police protection. There were still many displaced persons in Hannover who had assisted Hitler in leading his glorious war. Especially in the Vahrenwald District, a large proportion of Russians, Ukrainians and Poles concentrated in the D.P. camp.

Giving examples, he illustrated the unbearable insecurity in consequence of robberies and burglaries made by inmates of the D.P. camp in the Mockernstrasse barracks. Criminality was increasing and attracted rabble shunning the light of day. Unfortunately, there was no possibility so far expel these people. Action must be taken that a stronger Police patrol patrolled these dwelling blocks every hour. From day to day, more raids occurred. It was urgently necessary to increase Police protection.

Oberbürgermeister Weber then gave to the Chairman of the Police Committee, Ratsherr STEINGROBE, permission to speak.

Ratsherr STEINGROBE (SPD) stated that the problem of displaced persons occupied the Police already since 1945. One must, however, beware of designating all people accommodated in these camps as criminals. The Police was in possession of a survey on the composition of these people. For the rest, the conditions described by Ratsherr Barge were not only to be found in the Vahrenwald district, but everywhere where such camps were located.

One thing must, however, be stated namely, that a large proportion of these people demanded rights but declined to take over obligations. Nevertheless, honourable people were to be found amongst them who everyday went about their work, whereas another part had done nothing since 1945. The best thing to do in our own interest would be to lead these people back to regulated work. Unfortunately, to do so, was beyond our powers. To protect the population from this part of anti-social elements was naturally the duty of the Police. Ratsherr Barge had already pointed out the fact that the Hannover Police was not able to enter these camps. Until 1947, a Police officer was only allowed to enter a camp in company of an official of Military Government. Since 1947, it was a rule that the Police, in case they intended to search a camp, take somebody into detention or persecute a criminal, previously had to obtain the consent of the Camp Commander or his deputy or the Chief of the Camp Police to enter the camp. For this reason it was naturally extremely difficult for the Police to take any action whatsoever, even if they greatly endeavoured to do so. Besides, it was very difficult for Police officers who had repeatedly been shot at in consequence of their being insufficiently armed, and also connected with great danger, to arrest a criminal in these camps. Under no circumstances would it be allowed that the staff of the Police Forces be reduced by 200 officers and more as was the intention. By means of a higher Police protection, the population of these districts must be given the certainty to lead a life which is at least bearable. He requested to support the motion moved by Ratsherr Barge.

Ratsherr HUMMEL (CDU) stated he must give some additional facts to the statements given by the Chairman of the Police Committee he especially wanted to clarify the definition "displaced persons". The groups which, since 1945, roamed about the country thieving, plundering and murdering and not, as had been mentioned by Ratsherr Steingrobe, those labourers who, in certain instances, had gained work in a somewhat peculiar manner had, in their home-countries, belonged to those subjects who had decisively carried through the October Revolution in Russia. They belonged to those groups who had committed atrocities filling the world even to-day with disgust. It was common

/knowledge ...

knowledge that, in forming the foreign S.S. units, the Latvian, the Estonian, or the Ukrainian, it was just this class of people, who had after 1945 to flee from their country and were now compelled to lead the life of compulsorily displaced persons as described by Ratsherr Steingrobe. Everybody should try to attain from the Occupational Forces or from the High Commissioners on federal level that a thorough sifting of these persons be carried through. As known, about a year ago, a part of these "displaced persons" were transported back to Germany from Scotland to where they had been emigrated, because they were not willing to adapt themselves to work. One could only request the Occupation Force to bring about a change. The German authorities and especially the Hannover Police, could not be made responsible for such occurrences in the camps.

Ratsherr HEHNEN (KPD) stated that he experienced all kinds of things in this house but what Ratsherr Hummel had stated surpassed the limit. If Ratsherr Hummel stated that the inmates of DP camps were the originators and executors of the political October-Revolution, then he must tell him that he (Hummel) were an ignorant. These so-called displaced persons who now were a nuisance to Germany, were the people who had supported Hitler and thereby had offended against their own country. The real D.P.s. had packed their bundles immediately after the capitulation and returned to their home countries. But the persons who had remained here or had been brought to these parts, Ukrainians, Jugoslavs and so on, could not be compared with honest workmen, because they desired to pass through life without doing any work. With regard to such people, democratic principles ceased to be applicable since such people ought to be put behind iron bars. Strong arguments ought to be put before the Occupational Forces, as these ought to realize that at last the German Police must be given the right to carry through, on suspicion searches of the camps at any time of the day and night. It was common knowledge that the foreigners laughed at the endeavours of the German Police, as, when permission for search had been granted, in the meantime, all evidence had long been wiped out.

Oberbürgermeister Weber (SPD) added that the Police were already carrying out additional patrols in the neighbourhood of the camps. In consideration of the present strength of the Police staffing in Hannover, it was complete out of question to increase the strength of the patrols. Although the officers were already doing more than normal duty, a further number of 226 were to be discharged. The Police Committee had repeatedly approached the Minister of Finance and the Minister for the Interior because of the reduction of officers, a fact, incompatible with peace and security. The worst time would only commence in the long winter months; but the officers could not be expected to do even more official duty. In the application to the Ministry the fact should be expressed that the Police were the only instrument guaranteeing peace and order and that therefore, the existing strength of the staff must be retained at any rate.

Oberbürgermeister Weber (SPD) viewed the opinion, the Police Committee should submit, to the appropriate Minister the decision arrived at by the Council and tell him that Hannover City was unable to carry out the protection of the population with the present staff of Police Officers.

The Council passed the motion of Ratsherr Barthe.



CONFIDENTIAL

22A

Telephone Bunde 2115  
Your Reference  
Our Reference 62/FS/CW/1

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISER'S OFFICE  
BUNDE  
B.A.O.R. I

5th December 1949

Office of the Chief of Staff,  
LUBBECKE,  
B.A.O.R. 1  
(attention Col. R.O. Pulverman)

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT REGISTRY	
File No. 11145	Section: G
16 DEC 1949	
Location of File:	
Seen by:	
Action etc:	

Crime in D.P. Camps in the British Zone

Reference Exec/11145/G. dated 3rd December, 1949.

1. The paper attached to the above mentioned letter is agreed subject to the following amendments:-

(a) Reference 6(i)

Change to read - "Improvement of the conditions of the German economy with consequent curtailment of business on the Black Market and reduced temptation and opportunity to resort to petty crime as a means of income."

(b) Last paragraph of paragraph 6

Substitute "black market transactions" for "petty theft" in line 3.

(c) Reference paragraph 8(ii)

Change last line to read "They are, however, still handicapped by the delay resulting from the necessity for the observance of certain procedures before exercising their normal powers, particularly in respect of search, in camps."

  
Public Safety Adviser

JT/DM



Tel: LEMGO 628

Ref: DFD/0230/SEC

Displaced Persons Division,  
L E M G O,  
B.A.O.R. 15.

23A

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT HONOURARY	
File No. 11145	Section: G
9 DEC 1949	
Location of File:	
Seen by:	
Action etc:	

8 December, 1949

To: 'G' Section,  
Office of the Chief of Staff,  
L U B B E C K E,  
B.A.O.R. 1.

SUBJECT: - Crime in DP Camps in the British Zone

Reference your letter EXEC/11145/G dated 3rd December, 1949 and enclosure thereto.

2. It is suggested that the following amendments should be made to the draft paper for the reasons given below: -

(a) Para 5 - lines 4 to 7

Accurate statistics as at 30th Sept. 1949 are available and it is therefore recommended that the second sentence of this paragraph be deleted and the following substituted:

"At 30th Sept. 1949 there were 106,202 DPs living in camps, 18,610 in the CMWS/CMLO and in addition, it is estimated that there were approximately 24,000 in the German Economy (i.e. approximately 149,000 DP's registered for IRO assistance, as against a German population of 24,000,000.)"

(b) Sub-para 8 (iii) - last sentence

It is considered that this sentence as at present written may be misinterpreted in that "co-operation of the camp staff" might be taken to include the British Staff. It is considered, therefore, that for "camp staff", the phrase "DP personnel on the camp staff" should be substituted.

(c) Recommendations - Sub-para (iii) - first line

There appears to be a typographical error in this line and it is thought that the word "at" should be inserted after "aimed".

CAB. *h. C. McVittie*

C.A.B. McVITTIE  
for Chief, Displaced Persons Division.

DC/PD.

19A

24A

Appendix 'A' (to  
ZECO/0900/Sec dated  
11th January, 1949)

Top Secret Telegram/Letter from.....INT. Div.....

Reference No.....INT. Div/SEC/7120/1.....dated.....12 DEC 49.....

has been placed on file ZECO/11145 /TS

Date: 14/12/49.

Signed

H. Roscoe  
Central Registry

11145 JSA  
MEMORANDUM

FROM: CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.K. HIGH COMMISSIONER

TO: ACOA.

1. I would like to see Appendix A.
2. I am not clear what is meant by "forfeiture" of D.P. status. Is it this rather an empty threat or will it mean anything at all on 30 June 50.
3. I see no purpose in sending this to the D.H.C. since the report is doubtful about the authenticity of the his positive recommendations at

a(i) - a(ii)

12/




Confidential

MEMORANDUM

From: A. C. O. S. (Exec.) A

To: Chief of Staff.

1. Herewith the final draft of the report of the Working Party on DP crime. You will remember that Gen. Nelson asked you to set up this working party in August - May 49.
2. The recommendations of the Working Party do not amount to very much, and the most important one, to my mind, is that there should not be any publicity on this subject.
3. Col. Palmerman instructed me to ask you what you could like done with this report; and to suggest that you might care to send it to the Deputy High Commissioner, possibly with a recommendation that no further action be taken.

 2/1/50

MEMORANDUM

From: A. C. O. S. (Exec.) A

To: Chief of Staff.

Ref your note

1. Appendix A is flagged.

2. Forfeiture of DP status is pending ans. after 30 June 1950

it will only mean that those who have forfeited that status cannot rely upon us for protection against discriminatory treatment by the Germans to any extent other than we now afford to ordinary German subjects. I agree that as 30% time approaches it becomes more and more of an empty threat.

3. I suggest this report is circulated for information to the Divs/Bureaus represented on the Working Party, ask to lead Conferences, and to DP Council of Germany, with a note that it is too late to ~~take~~ take any action on it.

Brace 11

Inquire with 3,  
circulate for such  
action as time  
permits

4x

3/1/50

PNPB/PAG

26A  
CONFIDENTIAL

Ext: 312

Exec/11145/G ✓

'G' Section,  
Office of the Chief of Staff,  
Lubbecke,  
BAOR 1.


January, 1950

To: Land Commissioner's Office, North Rhine/Westphalia  
" " " Niedersachsen  
" " " Schleswig-Holstein  
Commissioner's Office, Hansestadt Hamburg  
Office of the Public Safety Adviser, Bünde  
Zonal Office of the Legal Adviser, Herford  
HQ Intelligence Division, Herford  
HQ DP Division, Lemgo  
Refugee and Displaced Persons Branch, Chancery, Wahnheide.

SUBJECT: Criminal activity in DP Camps in the British Zone

Acting under instructions from the Chief of Staff, a Working Party consisting of representatives of the Public Safety Adviser, DP, Legal and Intelligence Division was set up to consider the problem of criminal activities in DP Camps and to make recommendations as to the best means of reducing these activities.

- ... 2. A copy of the report of the Working Party is attached. It will be noted that few concrete proposals have been made due, principally, to the succession of events and the little time left at our disposal to implement any positive action.
3. Apart from information, however, the report is forwarded to you for such action as you consider time permits.

  
Colonel (Retd)  
Assistant Chief of Staff (A)



CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN DP CAMPS IN THE BRITISH ZONEINTRODUCTION

1. Following an allegation in the Daily Telegraph of 10/8/49 that DP camps in the British Zone were centres of criminal activity, the Chief of Staff instructed the CAO/DCOS (Exec) to set up a Working Party consisting of representatives of Public Safety Branch, DP, Legal and Intelligence Divisions, to consider the problem and make recommendations.

2. The Working Party based their study on the following facts or assumptions:-

- (a) DPs are generally subject to the provisions of the German Penal Code, although not to the jurisdiction of the German Criminal Courts, and as United Nations nationals may only be tried before CCG Courts. With the coming into force of Allied High Commission Law No. 13 on 1 January, 1950 DPs will, in general also become subject to the jurisdiction of the German Courts.
- (b) With certain exceptions, DPs will be transferred to the German Economy by 30th June, 1950.
- (c) DPs are a Reserved Subject under the Occupation Statute; and the High Commission will still be responsible for seeing that they do not suffer discriminatory treatment after their transfer to the German economy. There is no intention, however, of allowing DPs to regard themselves in any way as a separate or privileged class.

3. In the course of their discussions the Working Party consulted local British Authorities on the ground including Assistant Commissioners, Public Safety Officers, Relief Detachment and DPACCS Commanders.

4. The Working Party dealt with the matter by posing questions covering the various aspects of the problem and attempting to find the answers, and the report is therefore rendered in this form.

DISCUSSION

5. The Extent to which Criminal Activities can be traced to DP Camps

Police statistics on crime show that on a ratio basis the percentage of crimes by DPs (covering those living both inside and out of camps) exceeds that of the indigenous population. At 30th Sept. 1949 there were 106,202 DPs living in camps, 18,610 in the CMWS/CMLO and in addition, it is estimated that there were approximately 24,000 in the German Economy (i.e. approximately 149,000 DPs registered for IRO assistance, as against a German population of 24,000,000).

A schedule showing the average monthly number of arrests of alleged DPs and Germans over the past year is attached at Appendix 'A'. It will be seen that the crimes are divided to show thefts, robbery, murder and offences involving the use of firearms, and that the total percentage number of arrests made in the case of DPs is twice that of Germans. The greatest disparity occurs in crimes with firearms. The more serious the crime the greater is the disparity in the percentage.

Such statistics may be misleading to a certain degree in that other non-Germans may possibly be recorded as DPs, and because owing to the very great disparity between the total numbers of DPs and Germans percentages do not necessarily make an equitable comparison. Moreover,

/although

although the statistics cannot be broken down as between DPs living in and outside DP Camps, it appears from all information available to be a fair assumption that the incidence of crime is less among those living outside the DP Camps, owing to the fact that they are either living under conditions more nearly approximating to those of the average members of the German community or, alternatively, as members of CMLO/CMWS, are under strict discipline.

Although the figures quoted in the Appendix may not provide an accurate comparison, they do, however, show that a serious problem exists.

There is little doubt that this greater incidence of crime among the DPs may be traced to the fact that these unhappy people, having been torn away from their homes and countries and subjected to hardship and ill-treatment over a number of years, have now psychologically come to believe that the German is "fair game". Camp life does little to instil any feeling of civic responsibility, and, to alleviate the hard conditions and poor rates of pay, many DPs have resorted to the Black Market (the first step in a criminal career), which in the past has offered a profitable source of income to DPs and Germans alike. Further the "safe haven" of a DP Camp may act as an encouragement to the weaker characters to drift into crime.

6. Whether such Activities are Increasing or Declining and the Circumstances Leading to any such Increase or Decline

Statistics indicate that all types of crime show a steady fall over the past three years, but that the proportional decrease is least in the case of violent crimes, which may possibly be attributed to an element of hardened, habitual and desperate criminals. The improvement, however, is due to a number of factors:-

- (i) Improvement of the conditions of the German economy with consequent curtailment of business on the Black Market and reduced temptation to resort to petty crime as a means of income.
- (ii) Re-education and re-establishment by IRO of DPs willing to accept this help.
- (iii) The election as Camp Leaders, of suitable DPs, who will co-operate with the Police in the detection of crime, and whose personality goes a long way to ensuring a happy and ordered camp.
- (iv) The location of German Police Posts in some camps.
- (v) The award of long sentences to convicted criminals, which not only prevents them from committing further crimes, but acts as a deterrent to others.
- (vi) The general reduction in the number of DPs down to more manageable proportions.
- (vii) The detection and prevention of certain "rackets", e.g. disposal on the Black Market of gift parcels and "comforts".

Conversely, it is realised, however, that with the general improvement on the German economy, some DPs may have forsaken the declining profits of black market transactions for more serious crimes; while the habitual criminals, knowing that they are unacceptable for resettlement, and must remain in Germany, are prepared to go to greater lengths to attain their ends.

7. The Extent to which Criminal Activities are confined to Certain Groups or Camps

It is not possible to break down the statistics by nationality.

/Whilst,

Whilst, however, it would be generally dangerous to impute responsibility to any particular group or camp or to judge any particular group by the behaviour of a minority, the impression has been gained that on the whole the Baltic group, possibly because they are both better educated and less embittered against the Germans, are a well behaved community, whereas, on the other hand, there are undoubtedly a number of hardened criminals among the Poles, the most numerous group. The Jewish camp at Hohna, half of whose inmates are illegal entrants and not DPs, is known to be the centre of large scale black market activities. It would however be entirely wrong to regard DPs generally as a criminal class.

8. To what Extent Action is being taken to reduce such Activities and to what Extent it is Effective.

- (i) There is a continuous programme of re-education and rehabilitation of DPs in camps which should show progressive results.
- (ii) Increased authority has been given to the German Police in their dealings with DPs, and in particular the power to enter camps and to establish German Police posts in camps. They are, however, still handicapped by the delay resulting from the necessity for the observance of certain procedures before exercising their normal powers, particularly in respect of search, in camps.
- (iii) Raids on camps to discover criminals and black market activities are carried out but are not normally very successful, and tend rather to antagonise the majority of the law abiding DPs. Further, without the co-operation of the DP personnel on the camp staff they are very unlikely to attain their object.
- (iv) There is growing propaganda to the effect that DPs with a criminal record will prejudice their chances of resettlement.
- (v) There is a system of breaking up and dispersing the bad elements from any one camp. This is, however, only partially successful owing to the practical impossibility of keeping an accurate check on the day to day movements of individual DPs or of restricting their movement.
- (vi) I.R.O. have recently begun to exercise the powers given by their charter, in connection with "exploitation of the assistance of the organisation", by making DPs forfeit their I.R.O. status after conviction for serious crimes. It is, however, of such recent application that it is not yet possible to assess its value.

9. What Further Measures to Reduce such Activities could be considered and to what Extent they could be applied.

- (i) The inclusion of DP Camps within the ordinary patrols of the German Police, and the abolition of the present hindrances in the procedure for allowing them to enter camps.

It is realised that political considerations may limit such a proposal.

- (ii) The immediate registration by the German Registration Offices of all DPs and of every move from one camp to another. This would enable the German Police to keep an accurate check on suspected individuals and would considerably assist in the detection of crime. It is realised that such registration would require careful planning to avoid abuse in the use of the Registration Card. Further, this course might enable certain interested parties to obtain detailed knowledge of the location of individuals. There might therefore have to be some exceptions.



- (iii) Intensified propaganda to the DPs in their camps warning them that criminal records will prejudice their chances of resettlement and may lead to the forfeiture of their DP status, and that they are subject to the German Penal Code and the full authority of the German Police.
- (iv) The continuous survey made by DP Division to encourage an improvement in the calibre of camp leaders to be intensified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) It is recommended that apart from those measures discussed at paragraph 9 above, pending the transfer of DPs to the German economy next June, it would be unwise at this stage to make any fundamental changes. Such changes might antagonise one or both sides and consequently make the absorption into the German economy more difficult.
- (ii) The new measures would be most effective if aimed at preparing the DP to accept his duties and status as an ordinary resident in Germany. In addition, facilities for the prevention and detection of crime should be increased wherever possible.
- (iii) General publicity regarding measures taken to combat crime should not be undertaken as it would draw German attention to the problem and this again might prejudice the DPs' reception into the German economy.

Population										TYPES OF CRIME		
		ALL TYPES				THEFTS				ROBBERY		
D.P.	German	No. of D.P.s arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.P.s arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.P.s arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested
176,354	23,836,495	620	35.12	41,999	17.62	183	10.41	16,878	7.07	9	52.41	97

APPENDIX 'A' to 373/11145/G  
dated 5th January, 1950

TYPES OF CRIME

		ROBBERY				MURDER				WITH FIREARMS			
No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000
6,878	7.07	9	52.41	97	4.06	7	40.8	39	1.25	9	54.12	11	0.46



Population										TYPES OF CRIM		
		ALL TYPES				THEFTS				ROBBERY		
D.P.	German	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.Ps arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	G a
176,354	23,836,495	620	35.12	41,999	17.62	183	10.41	16,878	7.07	9	52.41	

APPENDIX 'A' to E/20/11145/G  
dated 5th January, 1950

TYPES OF CRIME

		ROBBERY				MURDER				WITH FIREARMS			
No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 10,000	No. of D.Fs arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of D.Fs arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of D.Fs arrested	Rate per 1,000,000	No. of Germans arrested	Rate per 1,000,000
16,878	7.07	9	52.41	97	4.06	7	40.8	30	1.25	9	54.12	11	0.46

FROM: P.S. to Chief of Staff

TO:

Acosl A)

DATE:

30/1

27<sup>A</sup>

seen thanks -

File in sec file

*[Signature]*

30/1

*[Signature]*

Signed .....

11107/7



Confidential

MEMORANDUM

From: A. C. G. S. (Exec.) A

To: Chief of Staff

Raid on HOTTNE etc

(1) You wished the following info

(a) Numbers employed in HOTTNE - 23 British (incl 7.15 + Int)  
50 C.M.P.  
A Coy of troops at call nearby.

(b) Recoveries

(i) Hottne. 5,300 Dollars.

£ 9.10 Sterling

£ 146 BAFS

3 illicit stills.

(ii) Celle 1,000 Dollars.

(iii) Hannover 6,000 DM (unclaimed)

100 Dollars

£ 2 Sterling

14 Gold Coins

250,000 Cigarettes,

13 1/2 Tons Coffee (worth over 1m DM).

2 Motor Vehicles.

It is thought that the man at Hannover is both a Black Marketeer & a Retainer of stolen goods.

(2) Shall I report results to DHC?

Robinson



*POP*

28<sup>los</sup>  
379

From: Mr. R. Donaldson, D.A.I.G.

Telephone Bunde 2545

Your Reference HQ/SEB/354/49

Our Reference

H.Q. Special Enquiry Bureau,  
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISER'S OFFICE  
BUNDE  
B.A.O.R. I

31st January, 1950.

To: Chief of Staff,  
LUBBECKE,  
B.A.O.R. 1

11145  
2 FEB 1950  
G

Location of File  
Sent by  
Action at

2 FEB 1950  
G

Location of File  
Sent by  
Action at

Subject :

I am directed by the Public Safety Adviser to forward to you a copy of a report concerning the above operation. The action was carried out on the 25th January, 1950 and the various teams dealing with this operation entered Belsen Camp at 1230 hours.

2. Simultaneously raids were carried out at the Jewish Emigration Assistance Society, Ohe Strasse, Hannover, and at the Im Keise Cafe, Celle.
3. The American Officers who supplied the information relating to these matters took part in the operation.
4. Considerable seizures of currency, coffee, cigarettes and other articles unlawfully acquired, were made and the details are being collated with a view to prosecutions taking place.
5. There was no untoward incident, and the various civilian branches, U.S. and British Military authorities, all

/of whom....





H.Q. Special Inquiry Bureau  
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISOR'S OFFICE  
BUNDE  
B.A.O.R.I.

From: Mr. R. Donaldson, D.A.I.G.

Telephone: Bunde 2745

2.

Our Reference

10/25/45

of whom co-operated to the full, have been thanked for the excellent manner in which their representatives carried out the duties they were called upon to perform.

6.  
5 FEB 1950  
RECEIVED  
10/25/45

6.  
5 FEB 1950  
RECEIVED  
10/25/45

you will be notified of the result of the subsequent proceedings in due course.

*R. Donaldson*  
Deputy Assistant Inspector General.

I am directed by the Public Safety Advisor to forward to you a copy of a report concerning the above operation. The action was carried out on the 25th January, 1950 and the various teams dealing with this operation entered Belsen Camp at 1230 hours.

RD/DPA.

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4. Considerable seizures of currency, coffee, cigarettes and other articles unlawfully acquired, were made and the details are being collated with a view to prosecutions taking place.

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of whom...

28 B

**CONFIDENTIAL**

HANNOVER 892012

LMS/PS/SKR/502

Public Safety Branch,  
Land Commissioner's Office,  
HANNOVER,  
R.A.O.R. 5.

27th January, 1950.

To: Maj.-Gen. HAYDIN, C.R.E., D.S.O., C.R.E.,  
H.Q. Int. Div., HERFORD, R.A.O.R. 15.

Asst. Provost Marshal,  
Rhine Army,  
R.A.O.R. 1.

Lt.-Col. M.C. WARDLOVE,  
G.S.O. I Ops.,  
7 Armoured Div.,  
R.A.O.R. 23

Director, Frontier Inspection Service,  
GUXHAGEN, R.A.O.R. 3.

Lt.-Col. A. Hunt,  
R.P.M., Headquarters 7 Armoured Div.,  
R.A.O.R. 23.

Supt. A. Yell,  
British Civil Police,  
BUNDE, R.A.O.R. 1.

**Operation "GRANITE"**

I enclose herewith, for your information, a copy of an interim report submitted to me showing the result of the Operation on 25th January, 1950.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your kind co-operation, and to express to all of your personnel who took part in the operation my appreciation of the manner in which they carried out the duties assigned to them, which contributed in no small measure to its success.

*T. Hayward*

Assistant Inspector General.

**HANNOVER**  
**17/MS**

Copies to:-

Land Commissioner, Hannover, R.A.O.R. 5.  
Public Safety Adviser, BUNDE, R.A.O.R. 1. (two copies) ✓  
Lieut. ANSLON, 6 R.P., C.I.D.,  
Rehnschaffenstr., 33, BREMENHAGEN.  
A.P.O. 69.  
S.P.S.O.,  
LUNEBURG, R.A.O.R. 8  
BRUNSWICK, " 11  
MILLENBERG, " 5  
S.P.S.O.  
HANNOVER " 3  
HANNOVER City " 5

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HANNOVER 892139

LNS/PS/SEB/502

Public Safety Branch (SEB),  
Land Commissioner's Office,  
HANNOVER,  
B.A.O.R. 5.

26th January, 1950.

To: Assistant Inspector General,  
(Internal).

Subject: Operation "GRANITE" Preliminary Report

1. I beg to report that the following British Civilian personnel took part in the above named operation.

Public Safety Officers .....	27
Frontier Inspection Service Officers .....	10
British Civil Police .....	16
" " Women Police .....	6
Intelligence Division Officers .....	6

2. Three officers from the U.S. C.I.D. were present during the whole of the operation.

3. The personnel were briefed at Stirling House, Hannover, at 0930 hrs, 25th January, the leader of each Search Party being given a map of the Camp, all information available, full instructions regarding the conduct of the search, together with a search warrant, receipt book and a clearance certificate to be completed at the conclusion of the search.

4. The party moved off in groups and proceeded to the Military Police Barracks, CELLE, where the vehicles, together with the Military Police contingent of 2 officers and 54 other ranks were formed into convoy. The convoy then drove to Belsen entering the Camp at 1230 hrs., the teams driving direct to their objective. The main convoy was followed by German Police detachment who were responsible for controlling the perimeter of the Camp, and by a company of troops who were held at the Military Barracks, Belsen, in case of need.

5. A Control Team was set up a Control Post at the Roundhouse and the operation was controlled throughout from the Post. The Interrogation team at the Control Post interrogated a number of persons brought to the Control.

6. The after-named five persons were arrested:-

Abram LACHMAN )	Being in possession of foreign
Izao CHASKILEWICZ)	currency and a pistol.
Major FUCHS	Being in possession of foreign
	currency
David EGER )	In possession of a still for
Rubin MISCHA )	distilling spirits

7. The following persons were found in possession of foreign currency. They were released and after enquiries are completed will be proceeded against by summons:-

Margaret SCHEVELEVEZ  
Ferenc CITROM  
Lonia HERBSCHBAIN  
H. DSIATCOSSYNSKA  
D. FLANCOUSSE  
- LAUTMANN

/The property



8. The property seized is shown on the list attached at Appendix 'A'.  
The total amounts are as follows: - of these need not totaly add but ybotano  
moltentmaxe

5,293 U.S. Dollars  
13,650 U.S. Military Payment Certificates  
£5 sterling  
£145. 17. 3. - B.A.F.S.Vs  
£9. 10. 0. - Australian pounds  
10 Canadian dollars  
5 Cuban pesos  
2,500 D. Marks  
2.50 Dutch Gulden  
220 Belgian Francs  
15 Danish Kroner  
30 Swedish Kroner  
£2 Palestine pounds  
56 Watches  
2 Cameras, and  
1 Automatic Pistol

The whole of this property is held at this H.Q., particulars having been entered in the Charge Book.

It will be seen from Appendix 'A' that a large proportion of the dollars was found in the Roundhouse in the rooms occupied by the Jewish Committee. The Owners of these sums have not been traced.

9. At the conclusion of each search, the leader of the Search Party obtained from the Block leader a certificate to the effect that the search had been carried out properly and there was no complaint from the occupants of the building. A similar certificate was signed by Herr ROSENSAFT in respect of the whole operation at BELSEN, but he added a note to the effect that he objected to the search of the offices at the Roundhouse.

10. The American C.I.D. officers were present during the proceedings and at the conclusion expressed their satisfaction in the way the operation had been carried out. The operation was concluded at 1720 hrs.

11. Two other raids were carried out simultaneously with that at Belsen. These were made by German Police, each party being under the control of a Public Safety Officer.

12. 1000 American Dollars were seized at the Cafe Im Keise, CELLE, and it is believed to be the property of Abram LACHMAN who was arrested at Belsen.

13. When the Search Party entered the premises of the Jewish Emigration Assistance Society, Chestrasse, Hannover, all the persons in the building left their rooms. The following property was seized, no person admitting ownership of same:-

Approx. 13½ tons of Coffee  
6000 DM  
100 Dollars  
£2 Sterling  
14 Gold coins  
250,000 cigarettes  
2 Motor vehicles

Enquiries are continuing with a view to tracing the owner of the vehicles.

/A number

8. A number of enquiries have been made in respect to the persons in custody and the pistol has been sent to the Ballistics Laboratory for examination.

A full report will be submitted when the enquiries are complete.

5,223 U.S. Dollars  
25 Sterling  
17.3 - R.A.F. 8. Va  
22.10.0 - Australian pounds  
10 Canadian Dollars  
2.50 Dutch Guilden  
220 Belgian Francs  
15 Danish Kroner  
30 Swedish Kroner  
22 Palestine pounds

25 Watches  
2 Cameras, and  
1 Automatic Pistol

HANNOVER  
LGL/FMS.

The whole of this property is held at this H.Q., particulars having been entered in the Charge Book.

It will be seen from Appendix 'A' that a large proportion of the dollars was found in the Roundhouse in the rooms occupied by the Jewish Committee. The owners of these sums have not been traced.

9. At the conclusion of each search, the leader of the Search Party obtained from the Block Leader a certificate to the effect that the search had been carried out properly and there was no complaint from the occupants of the building. A similar certificate was signed by Herr ROSENBAUM in respect of the whole operation at HANNOVER, but he added a note to the effect that he objected to the search of the officials at the Roundhouse.

10. The American C.I.D. officers were present during the proceedings and at the conclusion expressed their satisfaction in the way the operation had been carried out. The operation was completed at 1730 hrs.

11. Two other raids were carried out simultaneously with that at HANNOVER. These were made by German Police, each party being under the control of a Public Safety Officer.

12. 100 American Dollars were seized at the Cafe Im Heise, GERMANY, and it is believed to be the property of Abram LAMMAN who was arrested at HANNOVER.

13. When the Search Party entered the premises of the Jewish Emigration Assistance Society, Quedlinburg, HANNOVER, all the persons in the building left their rooms. The following property was seized, no person admitting ownership of same:-

Approx. 1 1/2 tons of Coffee  
6000 IM  
100 Dollars  
25 Sterling  
14 Gold coins  
250,000 cigarettes  
2 Motor vehicles

Handwritten are continuing with a view to tracing the owner of the vehicles.

A number

## PROPERTY

## FOUND IN POSSESSION of

15. One .32 Automatic Pistol "DUO"  
 manufacture No. 63851  
 One clip containing 5 rounds  
 One box containing set of 4 testing  
 acids.  
 One Zeiss Ikon Folding Camera 4.5  
 lens.  
 One Leica Camera. Camera No. 495353  
 Lens No. 737241 in brown leather case  
 One Gent's Gold Hunter Watch  
 inscribed "A.R.", with gold chain.  
 One Gent's Wrist-watch with gold  
 wedding ring on strap  
 20 Gent's Stop watches, gold-  
 coloured without strap.  
 One Gent's Stop Watch, gold colour,  
 with leather arm band.  
 One "Pito" "Junghans" Wrist-watch  
 with strap.  
 One "Schaffhausen" Gold Wrist-watch,  
 Gent's with strap.  
 2 "DOXA", gold coloured, Wrist-  
 watches, gent's, without straps  
 One Lady's "Schaffhausen" bronze-  
 coloured Wrist-watch with l. brown  
 strap.  
 One Gent's metal Wrist-watch with  
 black face and strap.  
 One Lady's "DOXA" metal-coloured  
 Wrist-watch without strap.  
 21 Assorted Ladies' gold-coloured  
 Wrist-watches without straps.  
 1 "DOXA" Ladies' Wrist-watch,  
 ornamental, with label attached.  
 2 Ladies' rolled gold wrist-watches  
 one with strap.  
 One Gent's metal Wrist-watch, without  
 strap.  
 One pair diamond earrings  
 One Platinum chain with pendant  
 containing one diamond.  
 1 pair gold-coloured cuff-links.  
 1 rolled-gold Lady's wrist-watch.  
 2 5-ruble gold pieces  
 1 Diamond and gold brooch.  
 One Gold fob-chain and fob.  
 One platinum and diamond pendant.  
 120 cents in American Script  
 £41. 10. 0. in British sterling  
 3d in B.A.F.S.Vs.  
 £144 in British B.A.F.S.V.s  
 3375 American Dollars  
 £9. 10. 0. in Australian pounds  
 3 Canadian Dollars  
 5 Cuban pesos  
 2½ Dutch Guilder  
 20 Belgian Francs

OHASKIELEWICZ Isaac

LACHMANN Abram

All as listed on Receipt "A5-9"  
 inclusive.  
 (Belsen Camp Raid 25/1/50.)



PROPERTY	FOUND IN POSSESSION OF
16. 122 American Dollars One Currency Control Book No. 161887	LAUTMANN Zoltan
17. 300 American Dollars	Found on floor in Room 3 Ground Floor Roundhouse Belsen D.P. Camp.
18. 550 American Dollars	Found behind cupboard in Room 3 of Roundhouse, Ground floor.
19. 377 American Dollars D.M. 3.50	Found behind desk in Room 3 of Roundhouse, Ground floor.  Suspected Owner:- LONDONER Efraim Identity Card No. 139805 Block L. 10 Bergen Belsen
20. 7 Canadian Dollars	SOEVELEVEZ Margaret
21. 55 American Dollars	CITROM Ferenc Room 13 Block H4. Belsen D.P. Camp
22. £1. 14. 3. in B.A.F.S.Vs	HERSCHERIN, Frau Lonia
23. Ten (10) American Dollars	DSIATUSSYNSKA H.
24. 44.0 American Dollars	Found under desk in Room 3 Roundhouse ground floor
25. 62 American Dollars 12-45 Script Dollars 3d in British B.A.F.S.Vs 15 Danish Kroner 30 Swedish Kroner 3 Photographs 3 Identity Cards, viz: FUKS, Mayer KUKS, Tolian YUROWITZ Iran	Found in Room 29, Block H4. Belsen Camp Room opened by Herr BLOCH of Camp Committee
26. 200 Belgian Francs	MISKA Rubin
27. 1000 Mills (Palestine) £1 Palestine Currency 10/- English sterling	FLANNOBAUM David, Jewish, male born 2/7/1918 at Walhook residing at Hohna DPACS D.P. Card No. 280522
28. 2/6d in BAFSVs 10/- in Sterling	
29. 2 American Dollars	Found in loose back of desk, middle room, ground floor, Roundhouse

29A

Office of the Chief of Staff,  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
LAGE XXXXX

EXRG/11143/6

4 February, 1950

1. I have just been reading the report on the successful raid on Helms Camp which was carried out with Army assistance on 25th January, a copy of which was sent to your Assistant Provost-Marshal from the Land Commissioner's office, Hannover under reference LNE/PS/SER/502. of 27 January, 1950.
2. The whole operation went according to plan and the fact that the Jews themselves were entirely satisfied that the search was carried out correctly and with as little disturbance as possible speaks for itself.
3. Would you very kindly let the 2 Officers and 54 Other Ranks, G.M.F., know how much we appreciated their invaluable help in this difficult operation.

Lt. WALTER J. JONES

Major-General G. H. Task OBE,  
Chief of Staff,  
Headquarters,  
British Army of the Rhine,  
BACH 1.

FROM: P.S. to Chief of Staff

TO: Sec Registry

DATE: 2/2

Please file under  
to RCO(A)

Signed R. Linton



FROM: P.S. to Chief of Staff

TO: —

- Sec Registry

DATE:

6/2

←  
Please file under  
to ACOS(A).

Signed

W. Sutton